

## IICA-Canada

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## IICA-Canada Monthly Corporate Report

March 2006

### ***INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES***

#### **1. Quota Payment**

The Government of Canada made its full quota payment to IICA through the Department of Foreign Affairs during this month.

#### **2. Annual Report**

The IICA Canada 2005 Annual Report was reviewed and approved by stakeholders in government, academic institutions and the private sector.

#### **3. Technical Cooperation Agenda**

The 2006-2010 Technical Cooperation Agenda was validated and officially sent to Costa Rica.

#### **4. 2007 Pre-Budget**

A general budget for 2007 was prepared and sent as requested by Headquarters.

### ***COUNTRY AND REGION ACTIVITIES***

#### **1. CFIA/CVP/IICA Seminar/Workshop on Foreign Animal Diseases**

A joint NCFAD/CFIA/Southern Cone Veterinary Committee/CAS/IICA Regional Seminar-Workshop entitled “Canadian Experiences in the diagnosis of FAD” was held in Montevideo, Uruguay. This was an awareness event to promote Canadian expertise and horizontal cooperation between Canada and countries of the Southern Cone in Foot and Mouth Disease, Avian Influenza and Classical Swine Fever. Laboratory staff from the national veterinary services of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay and representatives from Panafosa (PAHO FMD Center) participated in the event. Two Canadian experts, Dr. Alfonso Clavijo, Head of the Vesicular Diseases Unit at the CFIA, and Theresa Burns from the University of Guelph, also participated with the sponsorship of IICA Canada. A document identifying the needs of the various countries in emerging animal diseases and a draft plan of future activities was developed during the workshop.

#### **2. Veterinarians Without Borders Canada Meetings**

Besides two presentations made during the FAD Seminar-Workshop, Dr. Theresa Burns, who is a member of VWB Canada held meetings with the Deans of the various faculties of veterinary medicine in Argentina, the Dean of FVM of Uruguay and with the President of the Uruguay Society of Veterinary Medicine. The purpose of these meetings and presentations was to promote VSF Canada and identify potential areas of collaboration.

#### **3. International Development and Research Opportunities Forum in Food and Agri-Food at McGill University**

The IICA Canada representative made a presentation on IICA and opportunities in the Americas at the International Development Forum organized by the McDonald Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental



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Sciences of McGill University in Montreal. This Forum was dedicated to promote participation of faculty and student members in international development. IICA and the McGill University have been closely collaborating in different activities in the past years.

#### 4. Guidelines for an IICA Avian Influenza Strategy

A paper on guidelines to develop an IICA Strategy document to address Avian Influenza in the Americas was prepared. These guidelines were based on several consultations with specialists in the Americas and representatives of poultry producers in Canada. Canada has a leadership role to play as it recently experienced an outbreak which is very well documented and reviewed (including lessons learned).

#### ***OTHER ACTIVITIES***

##### 1. Agri-Environmental Policies of Latin America

An Agri-Environmental Policies document prepared by IICA Headquarters as the result of the AAFC-IICA meeting held in February in Costa Rica was reviewed and discussed.

##### 2. Traceability

IICA Canada supported an EU-IICA sponsored international meeting in Traceability held in Caracas, Venezuela by sharing a 2005 CD containing the pertinent documents on traceability systems in North America (Canada, US and Mexico).

##### 3. 2006 Internships Program

The IICA Canada 2006 Internship Program announcement was prepared and published, incorporating changes following the recommendations of stakeholders and the strategy developed in the 2006-2010 Technical Cooperation Agenda.

#### ***PUBLICATIONS***

1. Compilation and publication of the presentations made during the 2006 North American Consulting School held in Vancouver, BC in February.

#### ***PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL***

##### 1. AI Strategy

Further development of an Avian Influenza strategy document based on the mentioned guidelines.

##### 2. MIOA

A consultant from the Market Information Organization of the Americas will be in Ottawa to compile data for a study that resulted from the MIOA meeting held last year in Canada.

##### 3. CCAA

A consultant will be preparing a final proposal for the expansion of the Canadian Consulting Agrologists Association into the Caribbean and training of Caribbean consultants.



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## IICA-Canada Monthly Corporate Report

April 2006

### ***INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES***

#### 1. Annual Report

The IICA-Canada 2005 Annual Report was published and distributed throughout the IICA network and made available on the IICA website.

#### 2. FOCAL Conference on LAC

The Representative and Technical Specialist attended the Canadian Foundation for the Americas' conference "Where Can Canada Really Make a Difference" hosted at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Ottawa.

#### 3. Individual Contribution Plans

IICA-Canada staff completed and submitted the ICPs which outline how each staff member will contribute to reaching the objectives for the office in 2006.

#### 4. Work Plan Review

IICA-Canada submitted its 2006 Work Plan for stakeholder review.

#### 5. Expertise Exchanges and Internships Program

April 30<sup>th</sup> was the closing date for submissions under the open call of the 2006 IICA-Canada Expertise Exchange and Internship Program. Twelve applications are being reviewed.

#### 6. Conference of Montreal / DG's Visit

The Office continued coordinating with Conference organizers and Canadian officials on IICA's participation in the Conference and the DG's upcoming June visit.

### ***COUNTRY AND REGION ACTIVITIES***

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

#### 1. Follow-up on the CFIA/CVP/IICA Seminar/Workshop on Foreign Animal Diseases

IICA-Canada worked collaboratively with the Southern Cone Regional Specialist (AHFS) and with Dr. Clavijo of the NCFAD in Winnipeg on preparations for a FAD training course on real-Time PCR to be offered by the Winnipeg lab in Fall 2006.

#### 2. Avian Flu

IICA-Canada continued to develop an Institute strategy for the role of IICA in mitigating the threats to agriculture and rural communities posed by Avian Flu with the initial preparation of a white paper on the topic.

#### 3. Veterinarians Without Borders Canada

Dr. Theresa Burns submitted a report on her recent meetings with the Deans of the various faculties of veterinary medicine in Argentina, the Dean of FVM of Uruguay and with the President of the Uruguay Society of Veterinary Medicine.

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### AGRIBUSINESS

#### 4. CCAA proposal for the Caribbean and capacity building modules

The Office provided comments on a draft program with a final version expected later this spring.

#### 5. Market Information Organization of the Americas

IICA-Canada welcomed Mr. Gilberto Mendoza, specialist in agrifood markets from Colombia, who has been contracted by IICA to undertake a study on the different market systems of the Americas.

#### 6. XX International Conference on Agribusiness Administration

IICA-Canada worked closely with Terry Betker and Darrel Toma of the CCAA in preparation for Mr. Betker's participation at the XX International Conference on Agribusiness Administration to be held in Sonora, Mexico in May, where he will provide an overview of the CCAA. Mr. Betker will also be facilitating a workshop on Best Management Practices.

### TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

#### 7. North American Biotechnology Initiative

The Office helped facilitate the participation of IICA's Director of Biotechnology, Assefaw Tewolde, in the tri-national meetings held in Montreal. This was followed by an IICA/AAFC meeting in Ottawa to discuss future collaboration. The office also provided assistance to a representative of AAFC to attend a meeting in Costa Rica on the hemispheric biotechnology plan.

### SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

#### 8. IAI for Global Change Research

The Technical Specialist attended a presentation by the new Director of the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research, Dr. Holm Tiessen, a Canadian.

#### 9. Environment

The Office received Mr. Barry Stenshorn, former ADM at Environment Canada, to discuss details of his incorporation into the Institute as Special Advisor on issues such as climate change and agri-environmental policies.

#### 10. Agri-Environmental Policies in Latin America

The results of an IICA-Canada co-funded survey on agri-environmental policies in six countries of Latin America were presented in the April edition of *ComunIICA* authored by Milagro Saborio.

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

#### 1. Biofuels

IICA-Canada actively participated in the promotion of a biofuels meeting in Brazil, a follow-up activity to a commitment made by Brazil during the recent meetings in Guayaquil, by distributing meeting documents to Canadian authorities.



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### ***PUBLICATIONS***

1. 2005 Annual Report *The Contribution of IICA-Canada to the Development of Agriculture and Rural Communities of the Americas*

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### ***PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR MAY***

1. CCAA and Best Management Practices at the XX Agribusiness Congress  
Terry Betker will be presenting the CCAA at this conference in May and will be leading an IICA-Canada facilitated workshop on BMPs.

2. FAD

IICA and the NCFAD in Winnipeg will move toward finalizing the agenda for a 10-day training course on lab diagnostics to be offered to Southern Cone technicians this fall.

3. IICA Canada newsletter and Website

IICA-Canada will be launching a new quarterly newsletter focused on important national and international developments in the four strategy areas of IICA: agriculture health and food safety, trade and agribusiness development, technology and innovation and sustainable rural development; and noteworthy IICA activities.

4. Internships

The applications received for consideration will be reviewed and assessed, and final decisions, based on stakeholder consultation as applicable, will be communicated to candidates.

5. NAPPO

IICA-Canada staff will hold a meeting with Dr. Ian McDonnell of NAPPO to discuss further collaboration on ISPM #15.

6. OAS

The Representative will be attending an exchange and information session at DFAIT in advance of the 36<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the OAS.

7. Agriculture Attachés

The Representative will hold meetings with the American and Mexican agriculture attachés to Canada.

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## IICA-Canada Monthly Corporate Report

May 2006

### ***INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES***

#### 1. Internships

The Internships review committee reached final decisions on almost all of the received applications for the 2006 Internships program. Letters have been sent to applicants and the IICA-Canada staff have begun the travel planning of the first internship, which will take place in July.

#### 2. 2006 Annual Work Plan

Key stakeholders reviewed and validated the 2006 IICA-Canada Work Plan, which incorporated activities under the new strategy for technical cooperation.

### ***COUNTRY AND REGION ACTIVITIES***

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

##### 1. NAPPO

IICA-Canada Representative and Technical Specialist met with Dr. Ian McDonnell of NAPPO to discuss ongoing IICA/NAPPO collaboration on International Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measure #15, concerning the treatment of wood packaging.

##### 2. FAD Training

IICA-Canada continued working with the AHFS Southern Cone Regional Specialist and Dr. Alfonso Clavijo of Canada's National Centre for Foreign Animal Diseases on the upcoming FAD training session for the Southern Cone countries. Dr. Clavijo put forth proposed dates and a course outline, which is now being distributed among countries for comments.

#### **AGRIBUSINESS**

##### 3. XX International Conference on Agribusiness Administration

IICA-Canada sponsored the participation of Terry Betker, president-elect of the Canadian Consulting Agronomists Association, at the XX International Conference on Agribusiness Administration, held in Sonora, Mexico, where he provided an overview of the CCAA. IICA-Canada and Mr. Betker also worked collaboratively in delivering a workshop on Best Management Practices for participants in the conference. Almost 40 people attended the workshop, undertaking a series of exercises designed to demonstrate the BMP tool.

##### 4. CCAA Modules

Sandra Vokaty, engaged by IICA-Canada, developed a curriculum outline for a 7-module course for consulting agronomists in the Caribbean Region, based in part on a course outline developed by the CCAA. This work is part of IICA-Canada's cooperation with the CCAA and its objectives of developing linkages in other regions.

### ***OTHER ACTIVITIES***

#### 1. OAS

The Representative attended an exchange and information session at DFAIT in advance of the 36<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the OAS.



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### 2. Agriculture Attachés

The Representative met with the USDA/APHIS representative and the Mexican agriculture Minister Counsellor to explore areas of collaboration.

### 3. Haiti

IICA-Canada began working with its counterparts in Haiti on developing a program of action in support of the Haitian agriculture sector and the Haitian community in Canada.

### 4. RIBD

IICA-Canada was active in the promotion of the 14<sup>th</sup> Inter-American Meeting of Agriculture Librarians, Documentalists and Information Specialists (RIBDA), taking place this September in Oaxaca, Mexico. Promotion material was distributed to all agriculture and veterinary libraries in Canada.

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### **PUBLICATIONS**

1. *2005 Work Plan: Enhancing Canada's Involvement in the Americas through Interaction and Exchange*

2. *2006-2010 Technical Cooperation Agenda: Enhancing Canada's Involvement in the Americas through Interaction and Exchange*

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### **PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR JUNE**

#### 1. Conference of Montreal

Dr. Braithwaite, Chris Hansen and Mario Sexias will be comprising the IICA delegation to the 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of Montreal / Economic Forum of the Americas and the annual AAFC Agri-Business Forum.

#### 2. FAD Training

IICA and the NCFAD in Winnipeg will move toward finalizing the agenda for a 10-day training course on lab diagnostics to be offered to Southern Cone technicians this fall.

#### 3. Human Resource

Linda Landry, Director of Human Resources from IICA Headquarters in Costa Rica, will be visiting the office. As part of her program, among other things, she will be reviewing Individual Contribution Plans of IICA Canada Staff.

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***INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES***

DG Visits Canada

Dr. Braithwaite, accompanied by Mario Seixas and Christopher Hansen, were in Montreal, Quebec, to participate in the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Montreal. During the Conference, the DG held bilateral meetings with various federal and provincial government representatives, including the Associate Deputy minister from AAFC, and foreign dignitaries, including the Panama Ambassador to Canada and the Minister from Panama responsible for the new Canal project.

Director of Human Resources

Linda Landry, HR Director, was in the Office for two days working with staff on the Individual Contribution Plans. Ms. Landry also presented a 2 year service pin to Anita Anderson and held bilateral meetings with Canadian government officials on potential filling available positions within IICA.

New Advisor to IICA

Barry Stemshorn, former Assistant Deputy Minister at Environment Canada began serving as Advisor to IICA Canada on several issues, including agriculture adaptation to global climate change.

***COUNTRY AND REGION ACTIVITIES***

**AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

Avian Diseases Simulation

The Representative was invited to participate as a Guest Instructor in an avian diseases seminar and simulation exercise in Brazil, co-organized by private sector and government agriculture authorities. This activity was a follow-up to efforts to develop a training tool that the Representative was involved in two years ago as a Regional Specialist for the Southern Cone. The event, which was held in Feira de Santana, Bahia, Brazil and included 35 participants from federal, state and private sector organizations, covered presentations on theory and several tabletop and field simulation exercises. Resulting from this involvement, an emergency response training tool could be developed and shared with other IICA member countries as part of IICA' comprehensive AI Strategy.

ISPM 15

The Technical Specialist continued efforts coordinating with NAPPO on an ISPM 15 workshop for the Andean Region, tentatively scheduled for November. As well, coordination with Carol Thomas and Quentin Kubicek on a similar workshop for the Caribbean Region, to be held in Jamaica in August continued.

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## AGRIBUSINESS

### Canada – Haiti

The Office began collaborating with the IICA Office in Haiti on exploring potential areas of collaboration between the two countries, particularly taking advantage of the large Haitian community living in Canada. Efforts will focus on increasing trade of agri-products.

### AAFC Agri-Business Forum

The Office worked collaboratively with AAFC in this year's AAFC Agri-Business Forum which focused on the Brazilian agriculture sector. The DG was invited to make a presentation during the Forum, which also included the presence of Minister Rodriguez, Minister of Agriculture for Brazil.

### CCAA Modules

Efforts continued in developing a curriculum of professional development courses for the agriculture consulting industry in Canada, which could be suitable for LAC.

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## ***OTHER ACTIVITIES***

### Enhancement of Canadian Involvement in the Southern Cone

The Representative met in person and via telephone conference call with counterparts from Argentina, Chile and Brazil and with the Southern Cone Regional Specialist to discuss future joint activities in promoting Canadian expertise. Topics covered included agribusiness (certification of agriculture consultants and best management practices), AHFS (follow-up training on PCR-RT, food safety seminars), sustainable rural development (agricultural adaptation to global climate change) and innovation (public consultation in setting research agendas, biofuels).

### CIDA's New Program

The Technical Specialist attended a meeting hosted by the Minister responsible for the Canadian International Development Agency during which the Minister announced details of the Agency's new Voluntary Sector Fund, a program designed to promote effective aid with the support of Canadian partners.

### Internships

Administrative staff began working with the first Internship recipient from 2006, Amelie Gaudin de Rodriguez of Peru, who will be arriving in Canada in early July for a three-month project looking at issues related to potato genetics, in collaboration with AAFC's Potato Research Centre in New Brunswick

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## ***PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR JULY***

1. Mid-Year Progress Report and Financials
  2. AAFC Science Consultations publication
  3. Meetings between McGill University and Francois Dagenais.
  4. Support to Canadian Delegation to SACMI meeting
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## IICA-Canada Monthly Corporate Report

July 2006

### ***INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES***

Midterm Progress Report The progress report for the first semester of 2006 was prepared using the IS1a and IS 2 formats and sent to the Regional Operations Director for the Northern Region following the new reporting procedures indicated by the DG's Memo.

Exchange bilateral teleconference An exchange bilateral conference between the staff in IICA Offices in Canada and the US was held to review regional issues and activities such as NABI meetings and IICA PAHO Avian Influenza joint events. These Regional teleconferences will be held every month and will also include IICA Mexico.

Southern Cone Horizontal Cooperation Work Plan A Work Plan proposal for HC was sent to the Southern Cone countries with activities with IICA Canada for the second semester of 2006. This proposal includes events and information exchange in priority areas identified jointly with the Offices.

HC exchange and review Documents and publications on Horizontal Cooperation were reviewed and discussed with the Director of Horizontal Cooperation, Guillermo Toro and the IICA Chile Office. IICA Canada has been leading in this front with events and activities promoting Canadian expertise among other IICA member countries following its National Agenda strategy and priorities. IICA Chile recently published its strategy document with a list and description on available HC in Chile. The HC Director extended an invitation to IICA Canada to share our experiences with HC and to discuss the Southern Cone Work Plan during the Regional Programming meeting in Santiago.

Canadian Delegation at second SACMI meeting The Canadian Delegation actively participated in the second SACMI meeting held in Headquarters the last week of July. During this meeting the Medium Term Plan, IICA's financial status and other important issues were discussed. A report on the Committee recommendations will be available shortly.

### ***COUNTRY AND REGION ACTIVITIES***

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

CFIA IICA Foreign Animal Diseases Course in November The PCR RT course for the Southern Cone Veterinary Services Laboratories was confirmed by Dr. Paul Kitching, Director of the National Center of Foreign Animal Diseases /CFIA. The course will be held at the NCFAD in Winnipeg from November 6 to the 17th and will address the application of the PCR RT technique in the diagnosis of Avian Influenza and Foot and Mouth Disease. The NCFAD is a biosecurity 3 OIE Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza, FMD, Swine Fever and BSE. The PCR RT techniques are highly sensitive and specific tests for a fast and reliable diagnosis of these diseases. The course is a follow up of the CFIA- IICA Seminar and Workshop held in Montevideo early this year in conjunction with the CAS Permanent Veterinary Committee.



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### TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Public Consultation in Setting Strategic Directions for National Agriculture Research Programs: a new IICA Canada Publication IICA Canada has compiled in a publication the process and results of the experience in Canada of a public consultation held during 2005 to set the strategic directions of the National Agriculture Research programs. This publication will be available to our offices in other member countries and regional networks, such as the PROCIS.

### SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Agri-Environmental Policies for LA Project review Several meetings were held between IICA Canada and AAFC authorities to review and discuss the future of the AEPLA training tool. In spite of several initiatives no funds were made available for this year from AAFC or CIDA so other financial resources must be pursued.

Adaptation of agriculture to global climate change in the Reps meeting this year. Dr Barry Stemshorn, our Associate Consultant at IICA Canada, will be a guest speaker during this year's Rep Week. Dr. Stemshorn's is a former Associate Deputy Minister from Environment Canada and will address this important issue and the role that IICA can play in support of it's member countries.

### TRADE AND AGRIBUSINESS

New Canadian MIOA Delegate. Dr. Brian Render will be the primary contact in Canada at the Market Information Organization of the Americas, MIOA. He will be replacing Doug Peters who will now be working closer with the Canadian greenhouse vegetable industry.

Review of IICA – McGill University Agreement. A meeting to discuss a new agreement for continuing education courses in farm management and other future endeavors was held in Montreal with Drs. Kevin Wade and Inteaz Alli of the Mac Donald College of Agriculture and François Degenais, Michael Bedoya and Kimble Costain from IICA. The farm management course has been offered to member countries for several years under the original agreement with IICA headquarters which expired recently.

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Improvement of migrant workers roundtables in the Caribbean. The North-South Institute contacted IICA Canada as it plans to hold two roundtables in Jamaica and Barbados later this year or early in 2007 on Canada's Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (CSAWP). The objectives are to discuss mechanisms to improve the contribution that migrant workers make to the development of Caribbean economies and to increase the quality of their life while working in Canada. IICA Offices and the Regional Director have been consulted on their interest in supporting this initiative. The N-S Institute has received a grant under the International Trade and Labour Program of Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC).

HRSDC meeting with Ambassadors from Central America In advance to the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and Central America an informal meeting was held in IICA Canada between the HRSDC Director General and



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the Ambassadors from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. During this meeting a review of the negotiation process and labour issues that will be part of the agenda.

Possible partnership IICA and OXFAM Quebec for project in Haiti. A meeting to discuss the possibility of a partnership between IICA and OXFAM Quebec was held in Montreal under the leadership of François Degenais, Director of New Projects in Costa Rica. The partnership would be to participate in the execution of an IDB reconstruction project in Haiti.

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### ***PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST***

Canada-Mexico Bean Producers “Summer Tour” to Manitoba and Ontario  
Meeting with CFIA Avian Influenza technical staff in Winnipeg and Ottawa to present IICA’s strategy and IICA Canada’s work plan to support it.  
Publication of a Biofuels in Canada compilation document for the Southern Cone countries  
Visit to Canada of Christopher Hansen, Regional Operations Director for North America and Associate Deputy Director General

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## IICA-Canada Monthly Corporate Report

August 2006

### ***INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES***

#### VISIT OF NORTHERN REGION DIRECTOR

Chris Hansen, Director of IICA's Northern Region, participated in a five-day, four-city (Ottawa, Montreal, Edmonton and Winnipeg) tour of Canada, visiting many of the Office's key government, private sector and academia stakeholders.

#### PREPARATIONS FOR 2006 REPRESENTATIVE'S WEEK

In preparation for the 2006 event, the office submitted a report on the 'top 3' achievements, challenges, experiences and suggestions from the past year.

### ***COUNTRY AND REGION ACTIVITIES***

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

##### PRESENTATION TO CFIA

The Representative and Technical Specialist presented IICA's Technical Cooperation Strategy and Agenda for 2006-2010 to senior managers at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. As part of the presentation, the Representative outlined his vision for increasing the involvement of CFIA in IICA activities. Resulting from this meeting was a commitment from CFIA to participate in an avian influenza simulation exercise being held in Brazil in September (see below).

##### AI SIMULATION COURSE

The office is facilitating the involvement of a representative from CFIA in an avian influenza simulation and training course being held in Brazil in September. The CFIA representative is invited to present Canada's experiences with AI during the 2004 outbreak and as well to observe the exercise.

##### VETERINARY DRUG RESIDUES TRAINING COURSE

Dr. Joe Boison, CFIA Senior Research Scientist at the Centre for Veterinary Drug Residues, was invited by the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture to assist in the implementation of initiatives aimed at improving the country's analytical capabilities in residue detection. Specifically, Dr. Boison was asked to participate in a training course which was held in Campinas. IICA Canada was able to provide logistical support and facilitation for this visit in conjunction with IICA Brazil.

#### **TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

##### BIOFUELS

IICA Canada has begun to examine and review the state of affairs in Canada's biofuels sector. Specifically, the office is preparing a report that will take a value-chain approach to the topic, detailing the main players and their actions at each of the various stages in the chain, such as biomass production, energy production, distribution and retail, with a focus on presenting to other IICA offices what Canada can offer in technical cooperation.

##### PROCI NORTE

The office provided initial support to organizers of the 8<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the



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Board of Directors of ProciNorte, which is being held in Ottawa in October.

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### SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

#### ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

The office continued to work with Dr. Barry Stemshorn, advisor to IICA, with his presentation on the potential role of the Institute in supporting the efforts of IICA Member States to prepare the agriculture sector for the needed adaptation to global climate change.

#### AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

The SRD Team at IICA HQ continues to make significant advances in disseminating the results from the recent AAFC/IICA survey on agri-environmental policies in Latin America. The office in Canada has been coordinating with AAFC on finalizing a publication on the results.

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### TRADE AND AGRIBUSINESS

#### MEXICAN BEAN PRODUCERS TOUR CANADA

As part of the ongoing collaboration between Canadian and Mexican bean producers, which the IICA offices in both countries have been supporting, the IICA Canada representative was invited to participate in the Summer Bean Tour, held in Winnipeg, during which 19 Mexican bean producers toured the bean production areas of Manitoba. IICA Canada also provided direct financial support enabling the group to travel from Manitoba to London, Ontario to visit with the producers of the Ontario Coloured Bean Growers Association. The Technical Specialist participated in the Ontario activities.

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### ***OTHER ACTIVITIES***

#### WORLD FOOD PRIZE

IICA Canada distributed material, including nomination forms, to key stakeholders on the 2006 World Food Prize. Prize organizers requested IICA assistance in promoting the prize.

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### ***PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT MONTH***

#### AI SIMULATION COURSE IN BRAZIL

The office will work with CFIA in organizing the participation of a CFIA representative in an AI simulation course in September.

#### REORGANIZATION OF CHILE'S AG MINISTRY

IICA Canada is facilitating the presentation of a representative of the Canadian Government who will give a keynote address in September in Valdivia to Chilean government authorities on Canada's experiences in reorganizing and modernizing AAFC and the creation of the CFIA.

#### MCGILL ACTION PLAN

IICA Canada will develop a draft action plan for its collaborative efforts with McGill in September. The action plan will address course development, curriculum development, research and other activities and is expected to result in an agreement with the university.



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## IICA-Canada Monthly Corporate Report

September 2006

### ***INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES***

#### **SUPPORT TO THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The IICA office in Canada provided assistance to the Canadian delegates attending the Exec Committee meeting held in San Jose, Costa Rica.

### ***COUNTRY AND REGION ACTIVITIES***

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

#### **PCR-RT COURSE IN AVIAN INFLUENZA AND FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE**

The Office continued to work collaboratively with NCFAD staff and with the AHFS Specialist in the southern cone to finalize the list of participants from Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay in the Winnipeg course in November. Besides logistical support, the office in Canada is providing financial support for the participants in the course and to the countries in acquiring diagnostic kits.

#### **AI SIMULATION COURSE**

The office facilitated the involvement of Dr. Clarice Lulai-Angi, representative from CFIA, in an avian influenza simulation and training course held in Brazil. The CFIA representative was invited to present Canada's experiences with AI during the 2004 outbreak and to participate in the exercise.

#### **VETERINARY DRUG RESIDUES TRAINING COURSE**

Dr. Joe Boison, CFIA Senior Research Scientist at the Centre for Veterinary Drug Residues, on invitation by the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, participated in a training course held in Campinas. The course was designed to assist in the implementation of initiatives aimed at improving the country's analytical capabilities in residue detection.

#### **TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

#### **SUPPORT TO THE CARIBBEAN WEEK OF AGRICULTURE**

IICA Canada is providing logistical and financial support that will enable the participation of Dr. Inteaz Alli of McGill University to make a presentation on the regulation of foods derived from biotechnology during the Biotechnology Workshop of the 2006 CWA

#### **BIOENERGY PAPER**

IICA Canada continues to work with a consultant on preparing a report that will take a value-chain approach to the topic of biofuels, detailing the main players and their actions at each of the various stages in the chain, such as biomass production, energy production, distribution and retail, with a focus on presenting to other IICA offices what Canada can offer in technical cooperation.

#### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### **AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES**

The office maintained contact with AAFC and the SRD team at Headquarters in an effort to finalize the releases of findings from the policies survey conducted previously.



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### TRADE AND AGRIBUSINESS

#### MEXICAN BEAN PRODUCERS FALL TOUR

IICA Canada provided preliminary support to Pulse Canada and Sistema Producto Frijol in Mexico in their efforts to plan a fall bean tour in Ontario and Manitoba.

#### ***OTHER ACTIVITIES***

#### SUPPORT TO CHILE'S INSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION

IICA Canada facilitated the presentation of Barry Stemshorn, former A/Deputy Minister as a representative of the Canadian Government who gave a keynote address in Valdivia to Chilean government authorities on Canada's experiences in reorganizing and modernizing AAFC and the creation of the CFIA.

#### CANADA CHILE HORIZONTAL ACTION PLAN

IICA Canada and IICA Chile prepared a draft horizontal action plan that outlines potential activities over the coming period to increase exchange and interaction among key agriculture stakeholders from the two countries.

#### ***PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT MONTH***

#### REPRESENTATIVE'S WEEK

Besides participating in the event, the Office is facilitating the participation of Barry Stemshorn, who will be making a keynote presentation on global climate change and the potential role of IICA.

#### PROCI NORTE

The office provided on-going support to organizers of the 8<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Board of Directors of ProciNorte, and the joint PROCI meetings which are being held in Ottawa in October. The Office also provided financial support for some members.



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## IICA-Canada Monthly Corporate Report

October 2006

### ***INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES***

#### **ANNUAL REPRESENTATIVES' WEEK MEETING**

The Representative and the Technical Specialist attended this meeting from October 19-25 held in San Jose, Costa Rica. IICA Canada also facilitated the participation of Dr. Barry Stemshorn, who was a key speaker during the event, making a presentation on the possible role of IICA in agricultural adaptation to global climate change.

#### **NORTHERN REGION MEETING**

This meeting held at IICA HQ in San Jose, Costa Rica, allowed the Representatives from Canada, US and Mexico to focus on aligning national and regional technical cooperation agendas with the IICA Medium-Term Plan for 2006-2010.

#### **ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**

The Office began finalizing the 2007 AAP including the 2007 Budget and the Individual Contribution Plans for each staff member.

### ***COUNTRY AND REGION ACTIVITIES***

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

##### **AI SIMULATION PROJECT**

During the Rep's Week, the Representative was able to meet with Dr. Luis Barcos, Regional Representative for the OIE in the Americas, to discuss the IICA's avian influenza strategy. As a result, the IICA Canada office, with the support and coordination of Dr. Jim Butler, Deputy Direct General and the AHFS staff at IICA HQ will be developing an OIE proposal for an AI outbreak simulation activity for the Americas.

#### **TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

##### **SUPPORT TO THE CARIBBEAN WEEK OF AGRICULTURE**

IICA Canada provided logistical and financial support to enable Dr. Inteaz Alli of McGill University to make a keynote presentation on the regulation of foods derived from biotechnology during the Biotechnology Workshop of the 2006 CWA.

##### **PROCI NORTE MEETINGS**

The Office provided logistical support to the Executive Secretary of ProciNorte for the 2007 annual meeting and for joint meetings with ProciTropicos and ProciSur, held in Ottawa. As a result of the joint meeting, a common agenda of activities has been developed.

During the meetings, IICA Canada was asked to serve as the honorary witness to the agreement between the Canadian Agriculture Library, the National Agriculture Library and the Universidad Autonoma Agrícola Antonio Narro, as part of ProciNorte's Library working group.



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### SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

#### AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

The office continued to work with AAFC on moving forward with the Agri-Environmental Policies in Latin America project, including the further development of the AEPLA modules.

#### AGRICULTURAL ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

IICA Canada has begun working with the Inter-American Institute for Research on Climate Change (IAI) to host at IICA Headquarters in San Jose the next meeting of IAI which will be in December.

### TRADE AND AGRIBUSINESS

#### 2<sup>ND</sup> MEXICAN BEAN PRODUCERS FALL TOUR

IICA Canada facilitated a second Mexican Producers Tour to Canada, including stops in London, Ontario and Winnipeg, Manitoba. This tour with 7 Mexican producers focused on harvest and post-harvest activities in these two regions.

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

#### NEW CD ON SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

During the ProciNorte meetings, the Office prepared and distributed copies of its new CD-Rom "AAFC Science and Innovation Strategy: A Case Study in Using Public Consultation in Setting Strategic Directions for National Agriculture". This CD-Rom was also distributed to each Representative attending the Rep's Week.

### **PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT MONTH**

#### PCR-RT COURSE IN AVIAN INFLUENZA AND FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

The Office will continue to work collaboratively with NCFAD staff and with the AHFS Specialists in the southern cone to finalize preparations for participants from Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay in the Winnipeg course in November. Besides logistical support, the office in Canada will be providing financial support for the participants in the course and to the countries in acquiring diagnostic kits.

#### ISPM 15

The Office will work with NAPPO and CAN in their efforts to organize a November workshop for countries in the Andean Region on the implementation of the ISPM 15. During the workshop, IICA Canada with the support of the Andean Regional AHFS Specialist and the offices in the southern cone will be hosting a working luncheon where areas of future collaboration will be determined.

#### REVIEW OF AHFS INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES IN COLOMBIA

IICA Canada will be facilitating the participation of Canadian representatives in an International workshop titled "Institutional Experiences and Models in Plant and Animal Health and Food Safety", which will be held in Bogota, Colombia in November.



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### ***INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES***

#### ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

The Office began finalizing the 2007 AAP which included the 2007 Budget and the Individual Contribution Plans for each staff member.

#### Dialogue with OAS

The Representative participated in a dialogue with Ambassador Albert Ramdin, Assistant Secretary General of the Organization Of American States. The event, organized by Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, was on "New Challenges in the Western Hemisphere and Current Hemispheric Developments"

#### CANADA-CHILE FTA

The Representative and Technical Specialist met with Sarah Fountain Smith, Director for the Americas at Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, and her team to discuss collaborative efforts between DFAIT and IICA to mark the upcoming tenth anniversary of the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement.

### ***COUNTRY AND REGION ACTIVITIES***

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

#### MOVING FORWARD WITH THE AI STRATEGY FOR THE AMERICAS

IICA Canada has agreed with the new Director of AHFS, Ricardo Moulines to jointly sponsor and support the translation and adaptation to Spanish of the AI emergency training simulation tool developed in Brazil. The copyrights for the training materials as well as a training trainers course are being negotiated to be completed and available next year for all IICA member countries. It was also agreed that the trainings will be carried out jointly with other agencies involved such as FAO, PAHO and OIE under the IICA leadership. A version in English is being negotiated with the CFIA authorities to make this tool available for the Caribbean countries.

#### PCR-RT COURSE IN AVIAN INFLUENZA AND FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

Four laboratory professionals from Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay were trained at the NCFAD/CFIA lab in Winnipeg in November in new real time PCR diagnostic techniques for AI and FMD. Besides logistical support, IICA Canada jointly sponsored with CFIA, the participating countries and corresponding IICA Offices their trip expenses and the furnishing of diagnostic materials to set up the tests in their laboratories. This horizontal cooperation will enhance the support to the AI and FMD programs in these countries and the Region.

#### IICA- NAPPO SUPPORT FOR THE ISPM 15 IMPLEMENTATION IN ANDEAN AREA

The Office supported a joint NAPPO- CAN Seminar on ISPM 15 in November by sponsoring a workshop for with the Andean countries on future activities for the implementation of the ISPM 15. During the workshop, IICA Canada with the support and leadership of Jaime Flores the IICA Andean Regional AHFS Specialist hosted a working luncheon where areas of future collaboration between the countries and Canada were determined.



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### REVIEW OF SPS INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES IN COLOMBIA

In response to the Colombian Government request to our Office in Colombia IICA Canada jointly sponsored Barry Stemshorn participation as the Canadian representative in the “Institutional Experiences and Models in Plant and Animal Health and Food Safety” meetings held in Bogotá, Colombia. As a result of these meetings, a report with a list of recommendations based on the Canadian experience was presented to the Colombian authorities. Additionally potential future activities were identified among which was Colombian mission to Canada for 2007.

### SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

#### AAFC’S RENEWED SUPPORT TO THE AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

Meetings were held with AAFC authorities to review the AEPLA project and identify the next steps of this joint initiative. This was due to the renewed support for the project from AAFC with additional funds. A joint work plan was prepared to be implemented by the end of March addressing the adaptation and fine tuning for a Pilot Project in Costa Rica. Among the identified activities was a trip to Costa Rica of AAFC authorities for joint meetings with IICA Headquarters experts in environmental issues and Costarican Government authorities to promote the Canadian support for a Pilot Project and discuss the adaptation requirements.

### TRADE AND AGRIBUSINESS

#### FORMALIZING THE PARTNERSHIP WITH PULSE CANADA

IICA Canada prepared a draft agreement with Pulse Canada that would see the two organizations develop annual work plans to support the annual Canada-Mexico Bean Congress and other joint activities. A meeting will be held shortly to discuss final details of the agreement and joint activities for 2007.

### ***PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT MONTH***

Canadian Animal Health Coalition’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Emergency Management Conference

IAI/SCOPE/IICA Technical Forum on Global Climate Change

AEPLA meetings with Headquarters and Costa Rican government authorities

