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Subject: Follow-up to AGM05 Decisions - Center Directors and Board Chairs

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing to follow-up on decisions made at the AGM05 Business Meeting. You would already have seen the summary of proceedings from the meeting that was distributed on January 24, 2006, and may be accessed at: <http://www.cgiar.org/meetings/agm05/business.html>. Regarding the CGIAR decisions based on the work of the SSA Task Forces, a one-year window has been initiated for Centers to formulate alignment proposals. As Centers intending to develop proposals could receive special support from the CGIAR, those intending to do so should contact the CGIAR Secretariat so that we can initiate the process. It would be useful for us to inform ExCo about Centers that intend to develop alignment proposals beyond SSA. I'd like to share this preliminary information with ExCo as early as possible and preferably not later than March 31, 2006, which would allow us to send to ExCo a more detailed set of consolidated proposals.

For your convenience, decisions under agenda item 5(a) SSA Task Forces Follow-up--on Alignment Beyond SSA--are reproduced below:

Agenda Item 5(a) SSA Task Forces Follow-up

Decisions on Alignments Beyond SSA:

A "market-driven" approach should be used, initially, on alignments beyond SSA. This would involve the following steps:

- a one-year window will be initiated for interested Centers to formulate alignment proposals
- Centers intending to develop proposals could receive special support from the CGIAR
- the CGIAR should review the emerging alignment options at AGM06
- if necessary, at AGM06, the CGIAR could establish specific task forces to study the options and make recommendations for programmatic and structural alignments beyond SSA.

Let me thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Best wishes,

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