

GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES For the INTERNATIONAL AGRIFOOD NETWORK

APPROVED March 25, 2014

- 1) The International Agri-Food Network is a network rather than an association. It is not incorporated and operates on a virtual basis with no office premises.
- 2) It is a network of the willing.
- 3) Membership is open to international business organisations linked to production, trade, processing and retailing agricultural and food products. In cases where there is no international level body, a regional association can represent the industry and should reach out to the other regional groups in their field to coordinate input into the network. Special provision is made for national and regional farmers groups to join the Network.
- 4) The International Agri-Food Network (IAFN) will undertake such activities as agreed by the dues-paying members throughout the year and/or the whole membership at the in-person meeting. Such activities can include:
 - a. Information sharing on multi-lateral processes
 - b. Identification of emerging issues
 - c. Work sharing to manage IGO processes, such as the UN Committee on World Food Security, FAO, and IFAD
 - d. Development of position papers
 - e. Advocacy
- 5) Decisions are taken through the maximum consensus possible. Silence is counted as agreement.
- 6) Should there be dissenters among the members on a specific position paper, those members who have agreed to the paper will have their name applied to the paper. Such a paper will be loaded on the IAFN web site but will not have the IAFN name on it.
- 7) It is possible to become a member of IAFN by sending a request to the chairperson or secretariat (see web site for current contacts), and said request is subject to the approval of the other members. If approved, the member's association will be listed on the IAFN web site.

- 8) Any member wishing to leave the Network, can do so through notification of the chairperson or secretariat in e-mail or letter. In extraordinary circumstances, members may also opt to remove a member from the register.
- 9) A chairperson is selected for the Network every two years. No set term limit has been established. In principle, the chairmanship should rotate between members who have paid dues.
- 10) Dues-paying members shall convene at the call of the chairperson to settle matters related to:
 - a. Secretariat services
 - b. Budget
 - c. Expenditures
 - d. Assessing work load
 - e. Dues-setting and levies
- 11) For so long as IAFN is the private sector focal point for the Committee on World Food Security, the member named to the Advisory Group shall rotate every two years or be reconfirmed by the membership every two years.
- 12) There shall be a minimum of one in-person meeting of the Network each year. Those present form a quorum. Other communications and consultations shall be primarily via e-mail. The chairperson may convene conference calls and further in-person meetings at his/her discretion.