

U.S. Agency for International Development
Board for International Food and Agricultural Development
One Hundred and Fifty-Fifth Meeting

NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given of the one hundred and fifty-fifth meeting of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD). The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. on October 14, 2008 at the Des Moines Marriott Downtown located at 700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa. The meeting venue is in the Marriott Hotel's Iowa Ballroom, Salons A, B, and C located on the second floor. "Higher Education on a New Stage in Global Agricultural Development" is the theme of BIFAD's October's meeting.

Dr. Robert Easter, Chairman of BIFAD, will preside over the proceedings. Dr. Easter is Dean of the College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environment Sciences at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.

The morning session will include an overview of the BIFAD's Conference of Deans (CoD I) with observations and perspective directed toward the planning of CoD II to be held in mid 2009. The theme for the first Conference of Deans was "Higher Education on a New Stage in Global Agricultural Development. It was held on April 30, 2008. A White Paper with recommendations to USAID was prepared from the output of CoD I. These recommendations on the role of universities in supporting international development, especially with regard to food and agriculture, were presented by the Board to USAID Administrator Henrietta H. Fore on September 9, 2008 and they will be reviewed at the October 14, 2008 meeting.

The White Paper discussion will be followed by two presentations will offer strategic and long-term perspectives on international agriculture. The first, an agri-business view will be presented by John Deere International; and secondly Robert Thompson, University of Illinois, will discuss an economist's view on mitigating the food crises. Capping the morning session Irv Widders, Michigan State University, will moderate a panel of university deans and faculty will discuss ideas and ways to "Forming the University Brain Trust for International Agricultural Development" that can mobilize university capacities in collaboration with the international agri-business and with BIFAD's leadership, to advise and assist USAID.

Following the Board's executive luncheon (closed to the public) the afternoon session shifts to technical topics. In keeping with the mandate of Title XII and that of identifying new ways of establishing USAID and university partnerships Ken Baum, USAID, Office of Agriculture, will discuss "Recent Indefinite Quantity Contract (IQC) Approached and Opportunities for Title XII Institutional Involvement." Later the FY 2007 Title XII Report will be presented by George Wilson, USAID, Office of Agriculture. Sandra Russo, Chairman, Strategic Partnership for Agricultural Research and Education (SPARE) will give updates on SPARE's review actions on ADS-216 (USAID implementation of Title XII) and the CRPS Guidelines. SPARE is BIFAD's analytical sub-committee. The meeting will adjourn at 2:45 p.m.

The Board meeting is open to the public. The Board welcomes open dialog to promote greater focus on critical issues facing USAID and international agriculture. **Note on Public Comments:** Due to time constraints public comments to the Board will limited to two (2)

minutes to accommodate as many as possible. The comments must be submitted ahead of the meeting and they must be in writing.

Those wishing to attend the meeting or obtain additional information about BIFAD should contact Dr. Ronald S. Senykoff, the Designated Federal Officer for BIFAD. Write him in care of the U.S. Agency for International Development, Ronald Reagan Building, Office of Agriculture, Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 2.11-085, Washington DC, 20523-2110 or telephone him at (202) 712-0218 or fax (202) 216-3010.

Ronald S. Senykoff, Ph.D.

USAID Designated Federal Officer for BIFAD

Office of Agriculture and Food Security

Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture & Trade

U.S. Agency for International Development