

28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
9 – 14 March 2008  
Cotonou, Benin

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**Minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Nominating Committee**  
Monday, 19 March 2007

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Present:	Clementine Dabire, Chair Bamba Gue	Takeshi Horie Gaston Grenier
Absent:	Mary Mokwunye	
Invited:	Remi Pochat	
Observers	Papa A. Seck Eric Tollens, EPMR Panel Chair Pammi Sachdeva, EPMR Panel member	
Secretary:	Samuel Bruce-Oliver	

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**Summary and Conclusions**

The meeting of the Nominating Committee was presided over by the Chair, Clementine Dabire, and attended by members Bamba Gue, Takeshi Hori, Gaston Grenier, Remi Pochat (invited) and Papa Seck (observer).

**1. Terms of Service of Board members**

In reviewing and clarifying the WARDA statutes, it was concluded that new members on arrival in the Board as observers, could be nominated to serve in Board Committees. Upon approval by the full Board, they become Committee members at the next meeting.

## 2. Review of the Process of Selection of the WARDA Director General

The selection of the new Director General was reviewed and it was agreed that among the criteria for selection should have been added the candidates' knowledge of the NARS.

## 3. Terms of service of Board Members and Membership Renewals

11 +1 members is what is being aimed at in terms of the ideal Board composition.

Actual situation in terms of filling vacant Board positions:

- i). Richard Musangi (Board nominee, East Africa) has been replaced by Tsedeke Abate (Board nominee, East Africa)
- ii) Ed Price (CG Nominee) has not been replaced
- iii) Pape Seck (Member country, West Africa) has been replaced by Adama Traore (Member country, West Africa)
- iv) Inga Bjork-Klevby (Board, Europe) has been replaced by Barbara Becker (CG, Europe)

Board Composition from April 2007 and at the 2008 Board meeting will be 10 members plus Mary Mokwunye's replacement as follows:

1. Gaston Grenier (Board nominee)
2. Clementine Dabire (Member States)
3. Remi Pochat (Board nominee)
4. Bamba Gue (Member States)
5. Kiyooki Maruyama (Board nominee)
6. Emmanuel Owusu-Bennoah (Member States)
7. Tsedeke Abate (Board nominee)
8. Barbara Becker (CG nominee)
9. Adama Traore (Member States)
10. Getachew Engida (CG nominee)
11. Papa Seck (Member States)

Board Nominees (4), CG Nominees (2), member states (5 +1) Total = 10 +1.

The Board would have to provide a profile for the replacement of Mary Mokwunye and the person would be invited to the 2008 Board meeting as an Observer.

Profiles suggested for the replacement of Clementine Dabire & Mary Mokwunye were specialists in natural resource or water management, persons from a regional NGO represented around Africa, civil society and the private sector from WARDA member countries.

Nominations of members from member states –

Mary Mokwunye's replacement must come from Anglophone countries, namely Gambia, Liberia, or Sierra Leone

Replacement for Clementine Dabire should come from French speaking countries, namely Benin, Cameroon, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Chad, Niger and Togo.

For the 2008 Board meeting – The process of recruitment of Clementine Dabire and Bamba Gue's replacement should be commenced.

#### **4. Membership Renewals for March 2007**

1. Gaston Grenier
2. Clementine Dabire
3. Mary Mokwunye
4. Remi Pochat
5. Takeshi Horie
6. Emmanuel Owusu-Bennoah

The Nominating Committee unanimously approved the renewal of Gaston Grenier and Emmanuel Owusu-Bennoah as Board members for another three-year term.

It was previously agreed that Takeshi Horie and Mary Mokwunye would leave the Board at the end of this meeting while Clementine Dabire and Remi Pochat would stay on until 2008. Takeshi Horie is attending the Board meeting with his replacement.

#### **5. Election of Board Chair**

Gaston Grenier was re-elected for another year on the basis of his outstanding contribution to the Board. He accepted his re-election as Chair but informed the Nominating Committee of his wish to be replaced at the end of this mandate in March 2008.

6. **Membership in Committees** – The Nominating Committee recommended new membership of committees as follows:

**Program Committee**

Emmanuel Owusu-Bennoah (Chair)

Kiyooki Maruyama (vice Chair)

Tsedeke Abate (vice Chair)

Program Committee remains a Committee of the whole Board

**Audit Committee**

Remi Pochat (Chair)

Getachew Engida (vice Chair)

Bamba Gue (member)

Barbara Becker (member)

Gaston Grenier (ex-officio)

**Nomination Committee**

Clementine Dabire (Chair)

Bamba Gue (vice Chair)

Adama Traore (member)

Tsedeke Abate (member)

Gaston Grenier (ex-officio)

**Executive and Finance Committee**

Gaston Grenier (Chair)

Clementine Dabire

Remi Pochat

Emmanuel Owusu-Bennoah

Barbara Becker (at large member)

Papa Seck (ex-officio)

**10. Status of Joint IITA/WARDA Nomination Committee**

It was confirmed that the common Board membership of Adama Traore and Barbara Becker in the IITA and WARDA Boards was valid so as long as they are members of the IITA Board. They would no longer be considered common Board members if they cease to be IITA Board members.

Main conclusions from an extraordinary meeting of the two Nominating Committee Chairs (IITA/WARDA) and two Program Committee Chairs (IITA/WARDA) held on Tuesday morning, 20 March 2007 were as follows:

i) WARDA is up to date in its common board membership with both Adama Traoré and Barbara Becker accepted as members of the WARDA Board. IITA wishes to be provided with the biodata of three WARDA Board members in order to consider two for IITA Board membership.

ii) The role of common Board members is to provide their professional experience, a better understanding of the first institution on whose Board they serve to be better clarify and exchange information, make recommendations to both organs of governance, and serve as conduits for the institutions to come together to deal with any difficulties.

iii) Reduction of Joint Nomination Committee to two Chairs because of the presence of the common Board members.

iv) The present agreement takes precedence over and annuls all other previous agreements.

## **Attachment 1**

Africa Rice Center  
(WARDA)

**27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
March 18 – 23, 2007  
Cotonou, Benin

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### **Provisional Agenda of the Meeting of the Nominating Committee**

Monday, 19 March 2007

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1. Chair's Remarks
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Review of Minutes of the Previous Nominating Committee Meeting
4. Action Items and Matters Arising
5. Nomination of Board members
6. Terms of service of WARDA Board members and membership renewals
7. Election of Board Chair
8. Membership in Committees
9. Status of Joint IITA/WARDA Nomination Committee
10. Board self and individual assessments
11. Other Matters