

## **Membership of CCARDESA Scientific and Technical Committee**

### **About CCARDESA**

CCARDESA was founded by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) member states to harmonise the implementation of regional agricultural research and development (R&D) in the SADC region. CCARDESA is a subsidiary of SADC, and a sub-regional research organization headquartered in Gaborone in the Republic of Botswana. The Organisation's ultimate goal is to contribute to the sustainable reduction of food insecurity and poverty in the SADC region. CCARDESA intends to address agricultural research and design issues in the SADC region through the following interventions:

- Coordinating implementation of regional agricultural R&D programmes
- Facilitating collaboration among stakeholders of the national agricultural research systems (NARS)
- Promoting public – private partnerships in regional agricultural R&D
- Improving agricultural technology generation, dissemination and adoption in the region through collective efforts, training and capacity building

### **Introduction**

The Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) is a statutory body of CCARDESA, which examines and provides advice to the General Assembly on the scientific quality and the relevance of sub-regional research activities. The STC should be composed of eight (8) members chosen from National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) of CCARDESA and partner institutions. The composition of the Scientific and Technical Committee ensures representation of CCARDESA's intervention areas as prescribed in the organisation's strategy documents and research priorities. The STC will hold its ordinary sessions once a year and extraordinary sessions when deemed necessary. The term of office for members will be three (3) years, renewable once. The official working languages are English, French and Portuguese.

## Functions

The Scientific and Technical Committee's role is to:

- Provide advice to the General Assembly on technical and scientific issues as well as on the compliance of research program activities implemented by national and regional agricultural research systems and their partners, base centers, networks and hubs;
- Assist the CCARDESA Secretariat in its functions of facilitating cooperation and scientific coordination;
- Assist the General Assembly in evaluating all of CCARDESA's scientific cooperation activities before every General Assembly meeting;
- Ensure the monitoring and evaluation of all scientific cooperation activities including that of scientific publications and dissemination of technical information that have been coordinated and implemented by CCARDESA
- Promote scientific excellence and increase the influence of CCARDESA in all countries in Southern Africa;
- Conduct strategic reflections that take into consideration the challenges and emerging issues and advise the General Assembly, Board of Directors as well as the Secretariat;
- Identify ways by which CCARDESA may collaborate with other scientific institutions. The evaluation of scientific activities should take into account both the programs and activity reports related to the implementation of CCARDESA-funded projects;
- Play an important role in evaluating the programs and activity reports of the Regional Centres of Leadership.

## Conditions

- Members are selected based on their individual expertise; their selection is not linked to their institution of origin;
- Members must come from National Agricultural Research Systems (universities, research institutes, civil society organizations, producer organizations, private sector institutions), Advanced Research Institutions and International Agricultural Research Centres;

- Members must be available to provide support to the Scientific and Technical Committee in carrying out its tasks;
- The functions of selected members must be compatible with the interests of agricultural research and development in Southern Africa;
- Members of the STC do not receive any salary from CCARDESA. However, travelling, lodging and subsistence costs of members incurred during participation in meetings organized by CCARDESA or in meetings where they represent CCARDESA will be paid. CCARDESA also offers a modest honorarium to STC members who are requested to carry out specific duties on behalf of the organisation.

## **Criteria for selection**

Selection of the candidates will be based on the following criteria:

(i) PhD/Doctorate in any of the areas to be identified in an official call for expression of interest, with at least 10 years of experience, (ii) experience in research and innovative development (iii) relevant practical field experience with respect to the domain advertised, (iv) experience in the management of scientific partnership within the IAR4D context, (v) experience with scientific advisory committees, (vi) evidence of research supervision and publishing in peer reviewed and accredited publications.

## **Applications**

An open call for expression of interest, indicating application requirements, will be made by the CCARDESA Secretariat to qualifying Southern African citizens. Applications from women are highly encouraged.