

UNIVERSITY of GUELPH

CENTRE FOR FOOD SECURITY

August 9, 1988

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan
B-4/142 Safdarjang Enclave
First Floor
New Delhi 110029, India

Dear Dr. Swaminathan:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) at Palmira, Colombia, to seek your assistance in finding a successor for Dr. John Nickel, who has been Director General of the Center since 1974.

Dr. Nickel has been responsible for developing a strong emphasis in the CIAT program on the mandated crops (beans, cassava, rice and tropical pastures) suited to minimum inputs for small farmer conditions. He has strengthened the multidisciplinary teams of experienced staff and created a high level of motivation. The Center is mature, with extensive activities throughout Latin America, and with growing programs in Africa and Asia.

The Center is in the process of developing a new strategic plan, and there will be an External Program Review (EPR) conducted by TAC in 1989. These activities will be critical to the continued excellence of CIAT programs.

Dr. Nickel has informed the Board that he plans to retire on January 31, 1990. Therefore the CIAT Trustees have set up a Search Committee under my chairmanship to identify his successor. It is hoped that Dr. Nickel's successor will be appointed by the Board of Trustees at its annual meeting in May, 1989.

On behalf of the Search Committee I invite you to send to me at the following address, marked **Confidential** not later than **October 15, 1988**, the names, addresses and summary information for any persons whom you believe should be considered by the Committee. Please include a curriculum vitae if available.

The Chairman, CIAT Search Committee
c/o Dr. W.E. Tossell
Centre for Food Security
University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario, Canada
N1G 2W1

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Guidance concerning the background experience and main qualities which the Board will expect the successful candidate to have is given in the attached description of the post and the duties of the Director General.

Needless to say, we are looking for an outstanding person whose spouse is equally capable of making a significant contribution to CIAT's continued success.

The CIAT Search Committee will be most grateful for your assistance in this matter. We look forward to receiving your nominations for this important position.

Sincerely,

Frederick E. Hutchinson

Frederick E. Hutchinson
Chairman, CIAT Search Committee

Encl.
FEH/ke

Centro International de Agricultura Tropical (CIAT)
International Center for Tropical Agriculture
Cali, Colombia

Invitation for Nominations to the Position
of Director General, (CIAT)

CIAT is part of a system of international agricultural research centers that help developing countries produce more food and improve their strategies for food security. Founded in 1967 by the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations in collaboration with the Government of Colombia it began operations in 1969. Since 1971, the Center has been supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) as one of the 13 centers in the CGIAR System co-sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank.

CIAT now receives support, through the CGIAR, from a number of donors including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Ford Foundation, Inter-American Development Bank, International Development Research Centre, the Rockefeller Foundation, United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the international cooperation and development agencies of the following governments:

Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, European Economic Community, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States.

At CIAT, the production-related problems of beans, cassava, rice and tropical pastures are researched by interdisciplinary teams of scientists. One of the primary purposes of the Center is to develop, together with national agricultural research organizations, varieties of plants that produce relatively high yields with minimal use of fertilizers and agricultural chemicals. Research emphasizes plant improvement in order to obtain a stable genetic resistance to major tropical diseases and pests, and the development of technology to increase production and utilization. Small farmers and low income urban consumers are the main beneficiaries.

CIAT-developed training helps strengthen national agricultural research programs. The Center is also an intermediary in research networks made up of scientists from Latin America and other tropical countries.

8. Ability to express issues in agricultural research and development in a clear and effective manner, both orally and in writing.
9. Fluency in English is essential. Fluency in Spanish is highly desirable or the candidate should be prepared to learn Spanish; fluency in other languages like Portuguese and French would be an additional advantage.
10. Good health and willingness to travel extensively.

Names preferably with curricula vitae of suitable candidates and/or applications should be sent, marked Confidential by October 15, 1988 to the following address:

The Chairman, CIAT Search Committee
c/o Dr. W.E. Tossel
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Guelph, Ontario
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