



**Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research – CGIAR**

**Ismail Serageldin**  
Chairman

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan  
Chairman  
M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation  
3rd Cross Street, Taramani Institutional Area  
Madras 600 006  
India

December 2, 1996

Dear Swami:

It was so very good to see you again in New Delhi and to have the pleasure of participating in the 2nd International Crop Science Congress *Crop Productivity and Sustainability - Shaping the Future* and Fourth General Assembly of Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI). The themes of both meetings – agricultural productivity and partnerships – are significant in a contemporary context, following as they did the Rome World Food Summit. I congratulate you and Council colleagues for hosting an intellectually-stimulating series of meetings which helped to highlight the centrality of rural issues in the overall development agenda.

On another note, I must say how very impressed I was with the sage guidance you imparted to the proceedings of the Congress and other associated events. Your leadership is a continuing source of inspiration for all of us in the development community and we applaud your efforts in bringing the best of science to bear on the problems of the poor.

With kind personal regards and all good wishes,

Sincerely,





**Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research – CGIAR**

**Ismail Serageldin**  
Chairman

Mr. M.S. Swaminathan  
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3rd Cross Street  
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Fax: (91-44) 2351319

October 6, 1998

Dear Swami:

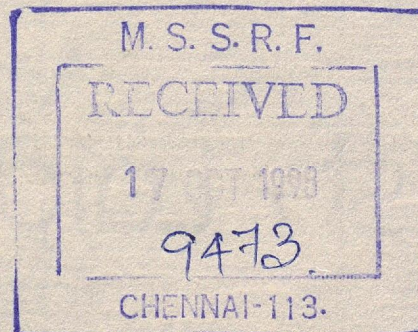
The report of the third system review of the CGIAR challenges the CGIAR to reach critical decisions concerning its future role and effectiveness. The report's analysis and recommendations will therefore be the principal focus of discussions at International Centers Week (ICW98) later this month.

We expected a lot from the review, and our expectations have been fulfilled. Your involvement in the work of the system review has been invaluable. On behalf of the CGIAR and of myself, both personally and officially, I thank you for your substantive contributions to the report and for the time you set aside for this task.

The report encourages us to attempt even more in the years ahead than we have been able to achieve in the past. In doing so, we will be guided by the wise counsel you have shared with us, and by your suggestions for new directions in what we do and how we do it.

Your presence at ICW98 will help participants to focus and sharpen their discussion. I very much look forward to your participation.

Again, thank you.



Sincerely,

**M.S. Swaminathan**

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**From:** Iserageldin@worldbank.org  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 23, 2000 9:59 AM  
**To:** M.S. Swaminathan  
**Subject:** Personal for the attention of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan

Personal

My dear Friend,

Thank you so much for the very kind words. You have no idea how much they mean to me. Thank you above all for the privilege of being able to call you my friend. You have been, and continue to be, an inspiration for all of us who try to toil for the public good.

Here in Dresden, The meetings are starting with the usual fear of change but hopefully will end with a better appreciation that clinging to the status quo in a rapidly changing world is simply an invitation to gradual marginalization of the system and a drift towards irrelevance. By the nature of the CGIAR, the only instrument the Chair has is persuasion. I can only hope that in my last meeting as Chair, I can help launch the process of continued renewal so that the CGIAR will continue to be a strong force for the public good in the early part of the new century as it has been in the last.

With all best wishes,

Ismail

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MSS/RM/22 May 2000

Dr Ismail Seregeldin  
Chairman, Consultative Group on International Agri. Research  
CGIAR Secretariat, 1818 H Street N W  
Washington DC 20433. U S A

Dear Ismail,

On the eve of the Dresden meeting I send you my very best wishes for its success. The papers prepared for MTM 2000 stand as witness to the remarkable transformation you have brought about in the mission, strategy and work of CGIAR. You have been the most powerful crusader for investment in public good research in the 20th century. I am confident that your dynamism and humanism will continue to serve as a bright affirming flame in the midst of the sea of the despair we see around us.

With best wishes for the success of the Dresden meeting and with warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

M S Swaminathan

## CGIAR Honors for Scientific Excellence\*

- 1970 Norman Borlaug (CIMMYT), whose work on dwarf varieties of grain helped achieve the Green Revolution, receives the **Nobel Peace Prize** for his scientific breakthroughs.
- 1980 The CGIAR receives the **King Baudouin International Development Prize** for "its contribution to the qualitative and quantitative improvement of food production in the world". Subsequently, the CGIAR developed, in cooperation with the Belgian government, its own biennial King Baudouin Award to recognize achievements stemming from the work of CGIAR Centers.
- 1982 IRRI receives the **King Baudouin Award of the CGIAR** for its breeding program in the development of IR36, an early maturing, high yielding rice variety with a broad spectrum of resistance to biological stresses.
- 1984 CIAT receives the **King Baudouin Award of the CGIAR** for its work on resistance to the Bean Golden Mosaic virus (BGMV)
- 1985 M.S. Swaminathan (IRRI) receives the **Association for Women in Development Award** for his outstanding work in integrating women in the development process.
- 1986 Amir U. Khan (IRRI) receives the **International Inventors Award** from Sweden's King Carl Gustav for the development of the axial flow thresher, a machine that processes high-moisture paddy rice and reduces threshing losses.
- 1986 IITA receives the **King Baudouin Award of the CGIAR** for its work to overcome maize streak virus, a major endemic disease affecting maize throughout Africa.
- 1987 Henry M. Beachell and Gurdev S. Khush (IRRI scientists) receive the prestigious **Japan Prize**, the country's top scientific award, for their roles in developing semi-dwarf varieties that launched the Green Revolution in rice farming.
- 1987 M. S. Swaminathan (IRRI) receives the **Golden Heart Presidential Award** from Philippine President Corazon Aquino for strengthening IRRI's capacity for conducting upstream research.
- 1987 John Mellor (IFPRI) receives the **U.S. Presidential End Hunger Award** for his work on science and education policy issues.
- 1987 M.S. Swaminathan (IRRI) receives the **World Food Prize** for leading the introduction of high-yielding wheat and rice to Indian farmers.

*Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)*

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- 1988 Thomas Odhiambo (Technical Advisory Committee) receives the first **Africa Prize for Leadership for the Sustainable End of Hunger** (sponsored by the U.S. based Hunger Project).
- 1988 CIMMYT receives the **King Baudouin Award of the CGIAR** for its work on the *Veery "S"* bread wheats.
- 1988 Robert F. Chandler, Jr. (IRRI) receives the **World Food Prize** for his leadership in developing tropical rice varieties that doubled and tripled the yields beyond traditional varieties.
- 1989 Peter R. Jennings (Rockefeller Foundation field staff at IRRI and CIAT) receives the **American Society of Agronomy Award** for International Service in Agronomy.
- 1989 Rattan Lal (IITA) is awarded the **International Soil Science Award** from the Soil Science Society of America.
- 1990 IITA and CIAT receive the **King Baudouin Award of the CGIAR** for their successful collaboration in classical biological control of the cassava mealybug in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 1990 John Niederhauser (CIP) receives the **World Food Prize** for his innovative leadership in advancing the production and consumption of the potato.
- 1991 Leslie Swindale (ICRISAT) receives the **Padma Bhushan Award** from the President of India for his work and his leadership of ICRISAT.
- 1992 Y.L. Nene (ICRISAT) receives the **Shri Om Prakash Bhasin Award** for Science and Technology for his contributions to agriculture.
- 1992 CIP receives the **King Baudouin Award of the CGIAR** for its research and development of effective integrated pest management practices and the creation of the "hairy potato".
- 1993 Carlos Ochoa (CIP) receives the **Inter-American Science Prize** from the Organization of American States for his life's work as a plant explorer, researcher, and educator.
- 1993 Pedro Sanchez (ICRAF) receives the **International Service In Agronomy Award** from the American Society of Agronomy and the **International Soil Science Award** from the Soil Science Society of America for his outstanding contributions to tropical soils research.
- 1994 Donald Winkelmann (CIMMYT) receives the **Order of the Aztec Eagle**, the highest distinction given by the Mexican government to a foreigner, for his contributions to Mexico during his 29 years of work in the country.

- 1994 Fredson Chikafumbwa (ICLARM) receives the **International Foundation for Science/King Baudouin Award** for his work on integrated crop-fish resource recycling.
- 1994 IITA receives the **King Baudouin Award of the CGIAR** for its pioneering research on breeding hybrid plantains resistant to black sigatoka and for advances made in the genetics of *Musa*.
- 1995 Hans Herren (IITA) receives the **World Food Prize** for developing the Africa-wide Cassava Mealybug Control Program.
- 1996 The CGIAR establishes the first **Chairman's Excellence in Science Awards**. The first awards are presented to Shaobing Peng (IRRI), Thelma Paris (IRRI), Shashi Sharma (ICRISAT) and, in partnership, to IITA and the Institute of Agricultural Research (IAR).
- 1996 ICRISAT receives the **King Baudouin Award of the CGIAR** for its successful work on pearl millet improvement.
- 1996 Henry M. Beachell and Gurdev Singh Khush, two IRRI scientists, receive the **World Food Prize** for revolutionizing Asian agriculture with new rice strains that revolutionized Asian agriculture.
- 1997 CGIAR Chairman's **Excellence in Science Awards** are presented to Marianne Bänziger (CIMMYT), A. K. Singh (ICRISAT), Marco Rondón (CIAT) and, in partnership, to the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) and ILRI.
- 1997 Jerry Vanclay (CIFOR) receives the prestigious **Queen's Award for Forestry** given by the Secretary General of the Commonwealth for his achievements in tropical forest research and management.
- 1997 Gurdev Khush (IRRI) is awarded the **Dr. K. Ramiah Medal** from the Indian National Academy of Sciences in recognition of his contributions to global rice science.
- 1997 John Ryan (ICARDA) receives the **International Soil Science Award** from the International Soil Society of America for his work in dryland areas.
- 1998 Per Pinstруп-Andersen (IFPRI) receives the **Charles A. Black Award** from the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology. The award is given to a food or agricultural research scientist who makes significant scientific contributions in his or her field and communicates the importance of this work to the public, policymakers, and news media.
- 1998 Rajendra Singh Paroda (Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, ICRISAT) is awarded the **Padma Bhushan** for "distinguished and excellent service" in the field of Science and Engineering (Plant Breeding).

- 1998 Giro Orita (ICARDA) is awarded the **Order of the Rising Sun with Gold and Silver Rays**, the highest decoration in Japan for Japanese experts working overseas, by His Majesty Emperor of Japan Akihito. A Japanese veterinarian, Dr. Orita rendered outstanding service to animal health.
- 1998 Dharmawansa Senadhira (IRRI) is chosen as a laureate of the **Fukui International Koshihikari Rice Prize** given by the Fukui Prefecture of Japan for his contributions to improvements in rice production through plant breeding.
- 1998 Rebecca Nelson (CIP), a molecular plant pathologist, receives a **MacArthur Fellowship**, which is widely known as a "genius award," for both her research on infectious mechanisms of agricultural pathogens and her work in disseminating the research results to farmers in the developing world.

\* *This list represents a sample of major awards received by CGIAR scientists. It is not intended to be a complete list.*