

C o m m u n i q u é d e p r e s s e

Montpellier, le 7 octobre 2010

Installation du siège du groupe consultatif pour la recherche agricole internationale à Montpellier

Le GCRAI, organe de gouvernance de la recherche agricole mondiale, a décidé d'implanter son siège à Montpellier et l'a annoncé aujourd'hui au Président de la République. Monsieur Pérez del Castillo a remercié le gouvernement français pour ses efforts dans l'accueil de projet (courrier ci-joint).

Le Président de la République et le Gouvernement soutenaient ce dossier depuis début 2009. C'est une grande réussite pour Montpellier et pour la France, qui étaient en concurrence avec 4 autres pays dans le monde (Kenya, Inde, Italie, Ethiopie).

Ceci conforte toutes les compétences françaises en matière d'agronomie et conforte la place prééminente de Montpellier dans le paysage de la recherche agronomique mondial.

Ce résultat remarquable a été obtenu par un travail commun avec le Conseil régional du Languedoc-Roussillon, Agropolis International et tous les ministères concernés.

GCRAI : groupe consultatif pour la recherche agricole internationale

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5 October 2010

Monsieur le Président de la République
Palais de l'Élysée
55, rue du faubourg Saint-Honoré
75008 Paris

Monsieur le Président,

On behalf of the Consortium of CGIAR Centers, I would like to thank your Excellency for expressing interest and submitting a proposal to host the headquarters of the Consortium. On 9 April 2010 the Consortium Board invited expressions of interest from five countries with an invitation to prepare a proposal addressing the criteria that the Consortium Board had identified as critical to the efficient and effective functioning of the Consortium Headquarters.

We were very pleased to receive proposals from all five countries and I and the Vice-Chair of the Consortium had the pleasure of speaking with Ministers and officials in France to further elaborate the proposal. We are grateful for the time that your government and staff of Agropolis have given us to get a better understanding of your offer to host the Consortium Headquarters.

The proposal has provided the Consortium Board with a good understanding of France's commitment and generous offer as outlined in the comprehensive booklet "*France's proposal to host the CGIAR Consortium in Montpellier*" including facilities in Montpellier and Paris. The Board is appreciative of France's agreement to take a lead in promoting the Consortium's international status and acting as the depository for the Agreement.

This week, the Consortium Board discussed the proposals submitted noting that all were of a high quality and comprehensive. Each proposal was examined against the criteria that the Consortium Board had established so as to ensure a fair and transparent process. In this regard, the Board is very pleased to confirm to your Excellency that the French bid for hosting the Consortium Headquarters in Montpellier is considered to be the one that best facilitates the immediate and long term needs of the Consortium.

I will follow up with M. Sujiro Seam next week, and relay to him the considerations of the Consortium Board in reaching its decision as well as the arrangements for the establishment of the Consortium Headquarters.

The Consortium Board is very appreciative of France's commitment and support for the development of the Consortium and looks forward to strengthening our relationship towards the goals of reducing poverty and food insecurity through high-quality international agricultural research, partnership and leadership. I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

Carlos Pérez del Castillo
Chair
Consortium Board of CGIAR Centers



Cc:

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