



## Press Release on

### Executive Committee (EC – 33) Meeting of CIRDAP

---

The 33rd Executive Committee (EC) Meeting of Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) was held virtually on 19th April 2022. The meeting was attended by 49 participants from 14 member countries (except Afghanistan), CIRDAP observers and the IRD expert. Dr. Cherdsak Virapat, Director General (DG) CIRDAP addressed the meetings with a brief background on the purpose of the Meeting. Then, Dr. Virapat invited the outgoing Chairperson, Mr. D.M.L. Bandaranayake, Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for his opening speech. By thanking the DG of CIRDAP and all the participants, the Chair formally inaugurated the virtual meeting and also wished for a successful meeting of the 33rd Executive Committee.

#### **Key highlights of the EC meeting:**

1. Mr. Somchuan Ratanamungklanon, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC), Royal Thai Government was elected as the Chairperson for the 33rd Executive Meeting. Mr. Vu Thanh Liem, Deputy Director General, International Cooperation Department (ICD-MARD), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Vietnam, has been elected as the Vice Chairperson.
2. The DG of CIRDAP presented a report on the previous year's activities and achievements. The Report highlights the key activities and achievements as well as challenges faced by the CIRDAP Secretariat from November 2019 to December 2021.
3. Prof. Dr. Mohammed Helal Uddin, Director Research, CIRDAP, presented a short summary of the Rural Development Report (RDR) 2021 titled as 'Digital Services for the Marginalized Rural in Asia and the Pacific: Accessibility, Affordability and Implications' which will be published this year. Also, EC adopted the topic for Rural Development Report 2023 as 'Assessing the Role of Food and Nutrition Security Policies of the CMCs in Helping the Marginalized Poor and Attaining the Relevant SDGs'.
4. The Executive Committee elected Dr. MUHAMMAD ISRAR from Pakistan as the new IRD expert of CIRDAP for the year of 2022- 2023.
5. The DG informed that the Governing Council of CIRDAP approved the establishment of the Aziz-Ul Haq Rural Development Medal on 15th July 2021 and the award of the 1st medal to the Prime Minister of

Bangladesh, H.E. Sheikh Hasina in recognition to her contributions to CIRDAP and rural development of Bangladesh.

6. Representatives from the African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO), Access Agriculture, the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC), Asian Productivity Organization (APO), Bangladesh Shrimp and Fish Foundation (BSFF), Centre for Disability in Development (CDD), the International Ocean Institute Thailand Training Centre (IOI - Thailand), the International Institute for Trade And Development (ITD), Mekong Institute (MI), The Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA), Pacific Disaster Center: PDC Global, and College of Arts, Media and Technology (CAMT) Chiang Mai University, THAILAND presented their short statements of cooperation with CIRDAP.



### Contact:

Hurain Jannat

Communication Officer, CIRDAP.

Telephone: +88-02-223388751, +88-02-223389686, +88-02-223383384 (Extension – 224);

Email: [communication\\_officer@cirdap.org](mailto:communication_officer@cirdap.org)

Date: 19/04/2022