



Press Release on

CIRDAP Governing Council (GC – 23)

The 23rd Governing Council (GC) Meeting of Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) was held virtually on 21st April 2022. Dr. Cherdsak Virapat, Director General of the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), addressed the meeting with a brief background on the purpose of the Governing Council Meeting. The DG of CIRDAP mentioned that the highest authority of CIRDAP is its Governing Council which consists of the Ministers/ Secretaries in charge of Ministries/Departments in the member states. On behalf of the Secretariat, DG CIRDAP offered his sincere thanks to 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 unwavering support in the last two years during the COVID-19 period. The DG of CIRDAP then welcomed all the participants for attending the virtual meeting and formally inaugurated the meeting.

According to the Rules of Procedure of CIRDAP, as a host country Thailand was elected as the Chairperson for the 23rd GC and Vietnam was elected as the Vice Chairperson. The new Chairperson of GC started his speech by congratulating the CIRDAP Secretariat for arranging virtual meetings of the 33rd Executive Committee and the 23rd Governing Council despite the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic. By the alphabetical order and the availability of GC members/nominees; Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, IR Iran, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, and Vietnam delivered their statements on Regional Collaboration. The GC endorsed the initiative to establish and celebrate the World Rural Development Day on 6th July 2022. The highest authority of CIRDAP also approved the establishment of the Aziz-Ul Haq Rural Development Medal and the first award to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, H.E. Sheikh Hasina in recognition to her contributions to CIRDAP and rural development of Bangladesh will be taken place on 29th May 2022. Also, the nomination of the Medal for 2022 was adopted by GC:

- Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, Thailand
- Prof. Dr. Ismail Shahbazi, IR Iran.
- Former Director Generals of CIRDAP (1979 – 2020)
- Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD), Bangladesh
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome, Italy.
- Ehsaas Programme Organization, Pakistan
- Representatives of the focal ministries of rural development in CIRDAP Member countries.



Contact:

Hurain Jannat

Communication Officer, CIRDAP.

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

Email: communication_officer@cirdap.org

Date: 21/04/2022