

**BOLIVIA, CHILE, COLOMBIA,
COSTA RICA, CUBA, etc.**

**Convention on the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural
Sciences. Opened for signature at the Pan American
Union in Washington, on 15 January 1944**

Official texts: English, French, Portuguese and Spanish.

Filed and recorded at the request of the United States of America on 3 March 1953.

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COSTA-RICA, CUBA, etc.**

**Convention relative à l'Institut interaméricain des sciences
agricoles. Ouverte à la signature à l'Union panamé-
ricaine à Washington, le 15 janvier 1944**

Textes officiels anglais, français, portugais et espagnol.

*Classée et inscrite au répertoire à la demande des États-Unis d'Amérique le 3 mars
1953.*

No. 489. CONVENTION¹ ON THE INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES. OPENED FOR SIGNATURE AT THE PAN AMERICAN UNION IN WASHINGTON, ON 15 JANUARY 1944

The Governments of the American Republics, desiring to promote the advancement of the agricultural sciences and related arts and sciences; and wishing to give practical effect to the resolution approved by the Eighth American Scientific Congress held in Washington in 1940, recommending the establishment of an Inter-American Institute of Tropical Agriculture, have agreed to conclude a Convention in order to recognize the permanent status of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, hereinafter referred to as "the Institute", on the basis of the following Articles:

Article I

The Contracting States hereby recognize the permanent status of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia, United States of America, on June 18, 1942; and they agree to recognize the Institute as a legal entity in accordance with their own legislation. The Institute shall have all the rights, benefits, assets, lands and other property to which it was or may be entitled as a corporation, and shall assume all the obligations and contracts for which it became responsible as a corporation.

¹ In accordance with article XV, the Convention came into force on 30 November 1944, three months following the deposit of the fifth instrument of ratification with the Pan American Union and subsequently with respect to States which deposited their instruments of ratification after the entry into force of the Convention, one month after such deposit.

Following is a list of States parties to the Convention indicating the respective dates of signature and deposit of the instruments of ratification and the dates of entry into force of the Convention:

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of signature</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the instrument of ratification</i>	<i>Date of entry into force</i>
El Salvador	18 February 1944	31 May 1944	30 November 1944
United States of America	15 January 1944	4 July 1944	30 November 1944
Guatemala	16 March 1944	6 July 1944	30 November 1944
Costa Rica	15 January 1944	14 August 1944	30 November 1944
Nicaragua	15 January 1944	31 August 1944	30 November 1944
Dominican Republic	28 January 1944	8 January 1945	8 February 1945
Honduras	28 January 1944	19 March 1945	19 April 1945
Venezuela*	10 October 1944	6 March 1946	6 April 1946
Panama	15 January 1944	24 January 1947	24 February 1947
Mexico	19 November 1946	26 May 1947	26 June 1947
Haiti (adherence)	...	19 June 1951	19 July 1951
Cuba	20 January 1944	...	...
Ecuador	20 January 1944	...	...
Uruguay	17 April 1944	...	...
Chile	13 May 1944	...	...
Bolivia	12 July 1944	...	...
Colombia	23 July 1948	...	...

* See on p. 313 of this volume the text of the reservation made by the Government of Venezuela upon signature.

The executive headquarters of the Institute shall be located in Washington, D. C. The principal field headquarters of the Institute shall be located in Turrialba, Costa Rica. Regional offices of the Institute may be maintained throughout the American Republics.

PURPOSES

Article II

The purposes of the Institute are to encourage and advance the development of agricultural sciences in the American Republics through research, teaching and extension activities in the theory and practice of agriculture and related arts and sciences.

In furtherance of these purposes the Institute may, subject to the laws of the several countries, exercise the following powers : To develop, finance and operate similar establishments and installations in one or more of the American Republics; to give assistance in the establishment and maintenance of organizations having similar purposes in the said Republics; to purchase, sell, lease, improve or operate any property in the American Republics, in accordance with the purposes of the Institute; to collaborate with the Government of any American Republic, or with any other organization or entity, and to give assistance to the same; to receive contributions and donations of money or property, both real and personal; to enter into and carry out contracts and agreements; to raise or acquire and, in any manner, dispose of all agricultural commodities and products thereof essential for experimental or research purposes; and to carry on any other business or activity appropriate to the foregoing purposes.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Article III

The representatives of the twenty-one American Republics on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union shall serve as members of the Institute, and shall be considered as members of the Board of Directors thereof. In the event that any member is unable to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors the said member or his government may designate an alternate for that purpose. The decisions of the Board shall be adopted by a majority vote of its members, which majority vote shall include the votes of a majority of the members representing Contracting States. The Board shall have, among others, the following functions :

To elect the Director of the Institute and to approve the appointment of the Secretary made by the Director.

To remove both the Director and the Secretary.

To determine the compensation of the Director and the Secretary.

To supervise the activities of the Director, who shall be responsible for carrying out all orders and resolutions of said Board.

To appoint and define the duties and compensation of an administrative committee consisting of not more than eight persons, of whom one shall be the Director of the Institute *ex officio*. The members of this administrative committee need not be members of the Board of Directors.

To approve the budget for the administration of the Institute to be submitted annually by the Director.

To fix the annual quotas of the Institute.

The Board shall receive an annual report from the Director upon the activities of the Institute as well as upon its general condition and financial status.

OFFICERS

Article IV

The Institute shall have a Director and a Secretary. The Director shall be elected by the Board of Directors in plenary session for a term of six years; he may be reelected one or more times. The first term of the Director under the provisions of this Convention shall begin as of the day on which this Convention enters into force.

The Secretary shall be appointed by the Director with the approval of the Board of Directors of the Institute and shall be directly responsible to the Director.

The Director and the Secretary shall hold office until their respective successors shall be chosen and shall qualify; but they may be removed by vote of the majority of the members of the Institute.

THE DIRECTOR

Article V

1. The Director under the supervision of the Board of Directors shall have ample and full powers to direct the activities of the Institute; and he shall be responsible for carrying out all orders and resolutions of said Board.

2. The Director under the supervision of the Board of Directors shall be the legal representative of the Institute; and he may legalize, with the seal of the Institute, all contracts, conveyances and other instruments which require such legalization and which in his opinion are necessary and advantageous to the operation of the Institute. In addition, he shall be authorized to take any other step necessary to validate such instruments as may be required or permitted by law. The Director may grant powers to others for all those acts which he cannot perform personally.

3. The Director, under the supervision of the Board of Directors of the Institute, shall have the power to appoint, remove, and determine the compensation of employees.

4. The Director shall prepare the budget of the Institute for each fiscal year, and submit it to the Board of Directors at least two months before the annual meeting at which it will be considered for approval.

5. The Director shall submit an annual report to the Board of Directors of the Institute two months before the annual meeting, setting forth the work of the Institute during the year and its general condition and financial status, and he shall submit to the approval of the said Board the budget and the plans for the following year.

THE SECRETARY

Article VI

The Secretary shall keep the minutes and records of the Institute, shall exercise all prerogatives and carry out all administrative duties assigned to him by the Director.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Article VII

Provision is made for the establishment of a Technical Advisory Council, as follows :

1. Each of the Contracting States may appoint an agricultural expert to be its representative in the Technical Advisory Council of the Institute. This Council shall cooperate with the Director on agricultural matters of a technical nature. The appointment of each representative shall be officially notified to the Secretary of the Institute. The members of the Council shall serve for a period of five years at the will or their respective governments, and may be reappointed one or more times.

2. The Technical Advisory Council shall meet at least once a year, under the chairmanship of the Director of the Institute, at such place as the activities, of the Institute may require. The Director may call special meetings of the Council on his own initiative, whenever the best interests of the Institute may require. Notice with respect to any meeting shall be given at least two months in advance and shall state the purpose or purposes of the proposed meeting. A majority of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.

3. No member of the Technical Advisory Council, as such, shall receive from the Institute any pecuniary compensation for his services, although the Institute may defray traveling expenses of the members of the Council to the annual meeting.