

Interview for the Position of APCoAB Coordinator

(Briefing Note for the Information of Members of Selection Committee)

Background

The Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB), a programme of the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), is an apolitical forum with a goal to enhance the benefits of conventional and advanced biotechnologies for sustainable agricultural development in the Asia-Pacific region, through greater stakeholder partnerships, improved policy environment, enhanced capacity building and knowledge sharing.

APCoAB has its origin in the FAO-APAARI meeting held on 4 April, 2003 in Bangkok for creation of an agricultural biotechnology consortium. Established in 2003, APCoAB functions as a programme under the umbrella of APAARI.

The activities of APCoAB include organization of: i) Expert Consultations, Brainstorming Sessions, High Level Policy Meetings on implementation, regulation and partnership in agricultural biotechnology; ii) Workshops and seminars on the science of biotechnology, its regulation and communication; iii) Hands-on training on conventional and modern biotechnology tools and techniques; and iv) Publication of reports, success stories and status reports, and web-based information dissemination.

APCoAB is funded through contributions of APAARI, Council of Agriculture (COA), Taiwan and Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). Project based funding is also provided from time to time by Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), FAO and others. APCoAB activities are organized and implemented by its Coordinator under the guidance of its Steering Committee.

Vacancy announcement for recruitment of APCoAB Coordinator was made on 23 December 2016 and circulated among APAARI members, partners and other regional and international agricultural research and development organizations as also posted on APAARI and APCoAB websites. Fourteen applications were received for this position. Based on the selection criteria (Annexure I), four candidates were short listed and have been invited for personal face-to-face interview by the Selection Committee. These short listed candidates are Dr. Rishi Kumar Tyagi, Dr. (Mrs.) Gurinderjit Randhawa, Dr. R Chandra Babu and Dr. Nasir A. Saeed.

Interview Session

Date: 31 May 2017
Time: 09.30-17.00 hrs
Venue: Committee Room, Ambassador Hotel

Selection Committee

Dr Yusuf Zafar Chairman
Dr Vincent Lin Member
Dr Reynaldo Eborá Member
Dr JL Karihaloo Member
Dr Bhag Mal Member Secretary

Assessment Criteria and Scoring Weightage

Each member of the Selection Committee shall assess the performance of candidates based on the criteria listed in the table below:

Assessment and Scoring by Committee Members					
Item	R.K. Tyagi	G. Randhawa	R. C. Babu	N.A. Saeed	Weightage
CV (Scoring by Secretariat)					30%
Presentation					30%
Questions and responses					30%
Other Considerations*					10%
Total					100%
Weighted Average					
Rank					
Scoring in the range of 1 – 10					

*Team work; family commitments; possibility of deputation, if serving; etc.

The weighted averages assigned by the members of Selection Committee and arrived at on the basis of CV assessment done by the Secretariat shall be pooled to get the final ranking of candidates.

Interview Programme

09:30-10:00	Welcome, introduction and briefing by Chairman about the process of interview
10:00-12:00	Interview Session (as per attached outline of the interview process) -2 candidates
12:00-13:00	Lunch
13:30-15:30	Interview Session (Contd.)- 2 candidates
15:30-16:30	Discussion and conclusion
16:30-17:00	Tea/Coffee

Note: The applications/CVs of the short listed candidates are sent to the members of Selection Committee for their perusal/information (see the link file below).

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/rlje02awh5mzk31/AACMdicIDVHxEhTx1Y6WUqlia?dl=0>

Outline for the Interview Process

- 1 Introduction to and of the Selection Committee
- 2 Brief presentation by the candidate not exceeding 15 minutes on "Perspective of the candidate on his /her suitability for the position of APCoAB Coordinator considering his /her expertise, experience and role of the position".
- 3 Interactions with the members of the Selection Committee (30 - 35 minutes) covering the following aspects:
 - Follow up queries, questions and comments on the presentation
 - Knowledge about APAARI
 - Understanding /experience of the APAARI region
 - Knowledge about Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology and its current scope

- Knowledge and understanding of research, development, regulatory and other issues on agricultural biotechnology with special reference to Asia and the Pacific
- Awareness about the roles and responsibility of the position
- Understanding of the pay package given in the advertisement and expectations, if different
- Minimum period required for joining, if selected
- Weakness of the candidate
- Any follow-up questions

The above are the main areas to be covered while interviewing the candidates so as to assess their relative merits, potential, and suitability for the position. However, besides the above common areas, the members of the Selection Committee can ask any other specific questions they feel appropriate.

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