Oil crops: proceedings of the three meetings held at Pantnagar and Hyderabad, India, 4 – 17 January 1989
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OIL CROPS:
PROCEEDINGS OF THE THREE MEETINGS HELD AT
PANTNAGAR AND HYDERABAD, INDIA, 4-17 JANUARY 1989

1. The Brassica Subnetwork-II
2. The Other Oil Crops Subnetwork-I
3. The Oil Crops Network Steering Committee-I

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CONSTITUTION OF THE OIL CROPS NETWORK

(Second Draft)

Masood A. Rana and Abbas Omran

The first draft of the constitution was carefully and thoroughly discussed in the General Steering Committee Meeting held at Hyderabad, India from January 16-17, 1989. Each clause of the first draft was open to the house for suggestions/amendments. In this process the appropriate suggestions were incorporated and second draft was prepared at the end of the meeting which is now being circulated for information and critical review by the member countries.

This document will be presented in the coming meeting of the Whole-Network and will be enforced after approval of the house.

TITLE OF THE DOCUMENT

Constitution of the Oil Crops Network for East Africa and South Asia.

1. PURPOSE OF THE NETWORK

To improve/develop the annual oil crops especially those not covered by other international research organizations through better coordination and cooperation among the oil crop growing countries and strengthening their research program for the benefit of farmers.

2. OBJECTIVES

i) To assist member countries for the improvement/development of rapeseed-mustard, sesame, niger, sunflower, safflower and linseed.

ii) To enhance the general productivity and production of the mandate crops in different situations and systems.

3. APPROACH

i) To enhance the research capabilities through firsthand contacts, exchange of information and materials, dissemination of knowledge, organization/participation in meetings, workshops, seminars, publication of newsletters and trainings.

ii) Locate financial assistance and provide consultancy in the needed areas.

4. STRUCTURE

The Network will consist of the present four working units under the overall umbrella of whole-Network as below:

1) Subnetwork on brassica.
2) Subnetwork on sesame.
3) Subnetwork on sunflower.
4) Subnetwork on other oilcrops (linseed, safflower and niger).

Other oilcrops may be added in the future.

5. OPERATION

Each subnetwork will be managed through a Steering Committee. The Whole-Network will be operated through a General Steering Committee. The Steering Committees of each Sub-Network will formulate its work plan.
6. COMPOSITION OF STEERING COMMITTEES

i) Subnetwork

a) The Steering Committee of a Subnetwork will consist of 5 members, representing the two regions (E.Africa and S.Asia) in a ratio of 2:3, alternately.

b) Network Advisor will serve as Member Secretary.

c) Each Steering Committee will be headed by a Chairman and a Co-Chairman, one from each of the two regions.

d) One or two special invitees as recommended by the Steering Committee to fill in critical gaps.

ii) Whole-Network

a) Chairman and Co-Chairman of the four Sub-Networks.

b) Advisor of the Network and one or two representatives from the donor agencies.

7. ELIGIBILITY FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF STEERING COMMITTEE

i) Scientists actively involved in the crop/crops in a research organization or donor supported projects will be eligible for the membership of the Steering Committee of Subnetworks, subject to the approval of the respective Government authorities.

ii) One country can contribute only one member to each of the Steering Committees.

8. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN, CO-CHAIRMAN AND OTHER STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

i) Each of the Sub-Network Steering Committees will elect its Chairman and Co-Chairman, one from each region.

ii) The Network Advisor/Secretary, after election, will inform the concerned Government authorities about the elected member and seek the assurance of the possible participation of the member, so elected, in the Network meetings and other activities.

iii) In the third meeting of each Subnetworks, two members shall forgo their membership voluntarily or by drawing lots. To fill the vacant places 2 new members will be elected. Either the Chairman or the Co-Chairman can continue for the next meeting.

iv) The new Steering Committee shall then elect Chairman/Co-Chairman whoever was dropped in the process mentioned in clause 8(iii).

v) In the fourth meeting three members who continued from the beginning shall drop and in their places new members shall be elected.

vi) Subsequently, in every meeting of the Subnetwork either two or three members shall be elected or re-elected following the procedure mentioned above.

9. CONTACT PERSON

The Steering Committee member shall be the appropriate contact person. Wherever a member country is not represented in the Steering Committees the Network Advisor shall approach the respective Government authorities to nominate one scientist actively involved in the development and research of the mandate crops as the contact person.
RESPONSBILITIES OF STEERING COMMITTEE AND CONTACT PERSON

i) Steering Committee

a) Chairman and Co-Chairman will be responsible to finalize the plan of work with the consultation of Sub-Network members, accompanied with a budget estimate.

b) Chairman shall monitor the progress of the approved technical program. He may delegate authority of part of monitoring to the Co-Chairman or any member of the Steering Committee or the Network Advisor whenever needed.

c) Prepare the final report indicating the achievements and progress and present it to the Sub-Network meeting.

d) Identify the critical constraints holding the implementation of technical work plan.

e) Screen the technical proposals on the matters of interest to the member countries and send them to the Network Advisor for locating the financial help.

ii) Contact Person

The Contact Person will be responsible to provide and receive information on Network matters and country situation.

11. FREQUENCY OF THE MEETINGS

i) Subnetwork shall meet once every 18-24 months, while the Whole-Network once after 3 to 4 years.

ii) The Steering Committee of the Whole-Network shall meet once every year along with any of the Subnetwork meetings.

12. PROGRESS AND FOLLOW UP ACTION

Each subnetwork, in its meetings, shall review the progress and achievements for the period between the last meeting and ongoing meeting, and formulate the future action plan on the basis of immediate priorities.

13. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

i) Amendments in the constitution shall be made by the full body of the Whole-Network.

ii) A minimum of 75% votes of the total Whole-Network strength will be required to accept any amendment.

iii) When a need of change in the constitution is felt, it should be conveyed to the Network Advisor in writing who will circulate the proposed change to the members of Whole-Network for information and their input.

iv) The required change, then will be presented in the coming Whole-Network meeting for approval.