



Highlights of the Year

The year 2005 was yet another important milestone in ICARDA's efforts towards fulfilling its global mandate of alleviating poverty and protecting the natural resource base in dry areas. The major achievements reported in this chapter and elsewhere in this Annual Report reflect the collective

efforts of the Center, in partnership with national programs, sister centers, advanced research institutes and donors. ICARDA continues to build on these achievements to contribute to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals related to agriculture.

Key events and achievements

Dr Norman Borlaug visits ICARDA

Dr Norman E. Borlaug, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and father of the Green Revolution, visited ICARDA in May 2005 to address the participants of the "CWANA Wheat Meeting" and review the wheat improvement research in the region. Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, ICARDA Director General, and Dr Robert Havener, former Chair of ICARDA's Board of Trustees, paid tribute to Dr Borlaug for his valuable contributions to agricultural research, spanning six decades.



Farmer Saleh Al-Jaseem hugged Dr Norman Borlaug and thanked him for his contribution to the development of new wheat varieties, when Dr Borlaug visited his field near Aleppo Agricultural Research Center.



Visit to a durum seed multiplication plot in Al-Kam'mari in Aleppo province. Farmer Fayez Abelraz'zak Dandal briefed Dr Norman Borlaug on seed multiplication of wheat varieties released through the Syria/ICARDA collaborative program.

CGIAR Performance Assessment Ranks ICARDA "Outstanding"

In the performance assessment for 2005, conducted by the CGIAR Secretariat and the Science Council, in collaboration with the World Bank, ICARDA emerged as an "outstanding" Center.

Commenting on the good news, Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, Director General of ICARDA, said, "Excellent! I am really delighted to hear this wonderful news. This is the outcome of unwavering efforts of the Board, management team, and all the scientists and other staff of ICARDA."

The following key performance indicators were used, among others, in the assessment: percentage MTP output targets achieved in 2005; Science Council rating of Center outcome statements; SC/SPIA rating of the overall impact assessment; SC/SPIA rating of two impact studies carried out during 2003–05; quality and relevance of current research; institutional health; financial health; staff diversity; and stakeholder perceptions.

Dr Borlaug commended ICARDA for its work in the dry areas. "I can see the tremendous impact that your research and extension has made to increasing food production here in Syria and the neighboring countries," he said.

In his lecture "From the Green to the Gene Revolution: a 21st Century Challenge," Dr Borlaug

discussed the Green Revolution, the science behind it, and the factors that contributed to success. He also spoke of the enormous potential of transgenics; and the need for a 'Marshall Plan' for sub-Saharan Africa to provide the basic social and economic infrastructure needed to enable the continent to become self-sufficient in food production.

Looking to the future, Dr Borlaug highlighted the need to double current food production levels to feed the global population in 2050; and, correspondingly, the need to increase output from lands already in production, through a stronger focus on integrated soil health and soil fertility management.

Global Rust Initiative: safeguarding wheat production

The Global Rust Initiative (GRI) was launched in September 2005 at an international meeting in Nairobi, Kenya. It was formed following the disastrous outbreak of a new strain of wheat stem rust, Ug99, first identified in Uganda in 1999. The GRI is an interdisciplinary R&D consortium through which appropriate wheat varieties that possess stable resistance to the new stem rust races will be rapidly developed and deployed.

The Initiative is being led by ICARDA and CIMMYT, in cooperation with the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute and the Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organization. Hon. Kipruto Arap Kirwa, Minister of Agriculture, Kenya, inaugurated the launch. Nobel Laureate Dr Norman Borlaug delivered the keynote address.

Wheat stem rust, caused by the fungus *Puccinia graminis*, has caused huge losses in recent decades. In 1950 it destroyed nearly 70% of wheat sown in North America. One strain, first reported in Uganda in 1999, has now spread to other parts of East Africa. Small-scale farmers in Kenya have lost as much as 50% of



GRI summit participants. Among those seated in the front row are: Hon. Kipruto Arap Kirwa (fifth from right), Minister of Agriculture, Kenya; Nobel Laureate Dr Norman Borlaug (fourth from right); Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy (fifth from left), Director General of ICARDA.

their wheat; and both Uganda and Ethiopia are severely affected.

The disease now threatens to spread to the Middle East, Asia and the Americas, because the pathogen spores can be transported by wind over long distances. Stem rust control measures will spill over to two other important diseases, yellow rust and leaf rust.

In his opening address at the GRI summit, Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, ICARDA Director General, said ICARDA was pleased to be a partner in the Initiative. He congratulated members of the Expert Panel on the Stem Rust Outbreak in East Africa for their useful

report and said "the report forewarns us of the challenges that rusts can bring, and how to fore-arm ourselves to meet those challenges."

The project has long-term objectives to control the spread of Ug99 globally through a research agenda involving breeding varieties resistant to Ug99; pathogen surveillance, monitoring and early warning system; identification and characterization of new sources of resistance ; capacity building; accelerated seed multiplication; use of fungicides; and knowledge sharing and decision support systems for policy makers.

CIMMYT Board meets at ICARDA

The Board of Trustees of CIMMYT held its annual meeting at ICARDA headquarters in November 2005. ICARDA Board Chair Dr Margaret Catley-Carlson, and Board Chair Elect Dr Guido Gryseels, were present in Aleppo specially to welcome them. The CIMMYT Board toured ICARDA's research facilities and programs, followed by a day of field visits in Hama, Afamia and Homs provinces.

Since the ecoregion served by ICARDA is home to wheat, one of CIMMYT's two mandate crops, the CIMMYT Board was visiting its 'second home'. The two centers collaborate very closely. For example, each holds about 15,000 germplasm accessions from the other's collec-

tion, duplicated for safe-keeping. A joint ICARDA/ CIMMYT wheat improvement program, in operation since 1980, has led to dramatic production increases in the CWANA (Central and West Asia and North Africa) region.

To further strengthen the partnership, the two Directors

General – Prof. Dr El-Beltagy of ICARDA, and Dr Masa Iwanaga of CIMMYT – signed a revised agreement of collaboration during the CIMMYT Board meeting. The new agreement is designed to promote synergy between the two centers and use new modalities to increase the effectiveness and impact of their work.



Dr Alex McCalla (second from left), outgoing Board Chair of CIMMYT, thanked ICARDA for hosting the CIMMYT Board meeting. Seen with him are: Dr Masa Iwanaga (left), DG of CIMMYT; Dr Lene Lang (center), incoming Board Chair of CIMMYT; Dr Margaret Catley-Carlson (second from right), Board Chair of ICARDA; and Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy (right), DG of ICARDA.

IFAD team visits ICARDA

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has been a strong supporter of ICARDA since the inception of the Center. A delegation from IFAD visited ICARDA in May 2005 to review the progress of IFAD-funded projects and discuss future plans. The team, led by Mr James Carruthers, IFAD Assistant-

President, Program Management Department, included Ms Mona Bishay, Director, Near East and North Africa Division; Mr Abdelhamid Abdouli, Syria Country Program Manager; and others.

Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, ICARDA Director General, gave the delegation an overview of the

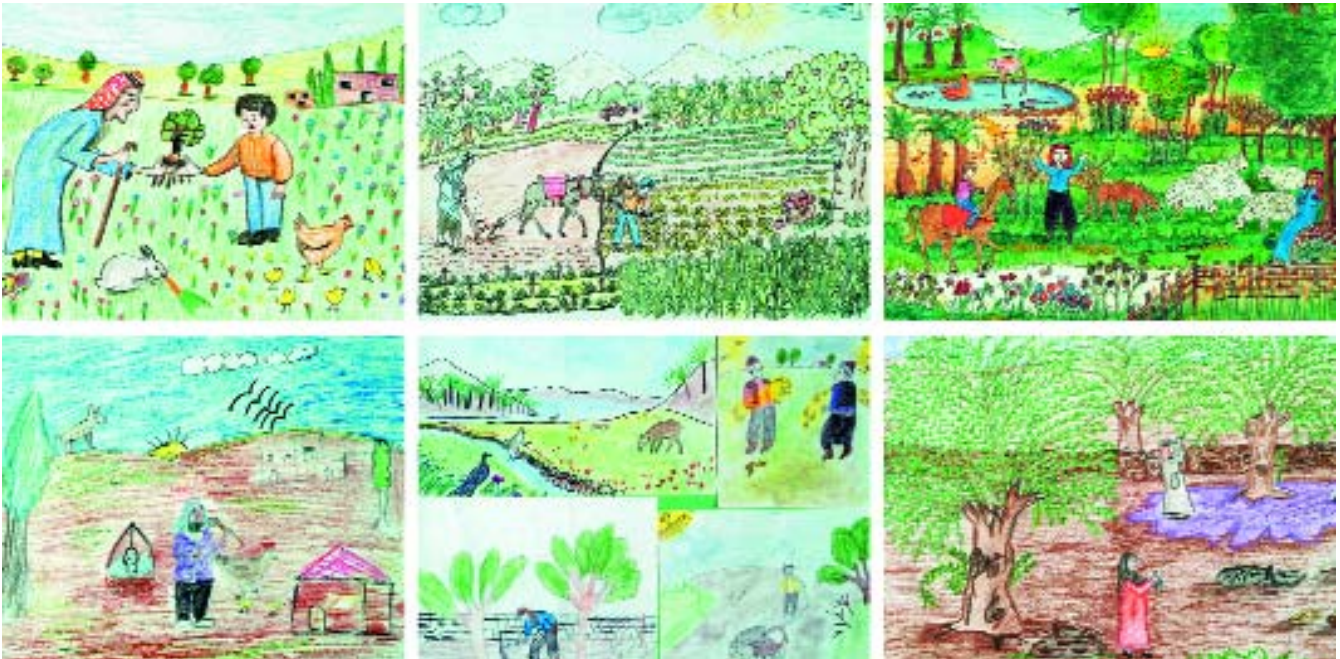
Center's work. Directors of the six new Mega-Projects of ICARDA also presented an overview of their respective programs. The IFAD delegation then visited ICARDA's research facilities, and interacted with a number of scientists. Mr Carruthers reaffirmed IFAD's commitment to support ICARDA's research projects.



IFAD delegation, led by Mr James Carruthers (left), IFAD Assistant-President, and including Ms Mona Bishay, Director, Near East and North Africa Division; Mr Abdelhamid Abdouli, Syria Country Program Manager; Ms Mylene Kherallah, Regional Economist; and Ms Annina Lubbock, visited ICARDA's genebank.

Educating children about biodiversity

Biodiversity loss will affect future generations – so it is important that children are made aware of the problem and its ramifications. The Dryland Agrobiodiversity Project, funded by GEF/UNEP and coordinated by ICARDA, worked with the Ministries of Education in Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria, to promote such awareness. The project organized lectures, field visits and documentary film shows for school children, and distributed



The West Asia Dryland Agrobiodiversity Project helped introduce agrobiodiversity into school curricula in four countries. It also organized a poster competition for children on agrobiodiversity. Here are some of the winning posters.

pamphlets and brochures explaining the causes and potential impacts of biodiversity loss.

As part of this effort, a poster contest was organized for school children in the age group of 10-14 years. Children were asked to create drawings or paintings that reflected various aspects of biodiversity, including crop diversity, degradation, and the role of farmers and communities in traditional agriculture. The paintings clearly showed the huge pool of creative talent, and also the effectiveness of the program in raising awareness. Four paintings were chosen from each country. The winners were taken on a tour of project sites in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, and awarded T-shirts and other gifts.

National genebank inaugurated in Turkmenistan

During the 8th ICARDA-CAC Regional Coordination Meeting,

held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, in March 2005, H.E. Begench Atamuradov, Minister of Agriculture, Turkmenistan, along with Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, Director General of ICARDA, inaugurated the national genebank of Turkmenistan.

Mr Atamuradov opened the Coordination meeting. He also delivered a message from the President of Turkmenistan to the participants. "As a result of ICARDA collaboration, there has been considerable progress in Turkmenistan in crop improve-



H.E. Begench Atamuradov, Minister of Agriculture, Turkmenistan, and Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, Director General of ICARDA, opening the national genebank of Turkmenistan.

ment and development of production technologies, e.g. for growing fodder crops on saline soils,” said the President in his message.

The meeting brought together 54 participants, including CAC NARS and ICARDA scientists, heads of NARS from the CAC region, a representative from the Asian Development Bank, and H.E. Rejep Saparov, Head of the Office of the President of Turkmenistan.

“Healing Wounds” – how the CGIAR Centers help rebuild agriculture

H.E. Obaidullah Ramin, Afghanistan’s Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food, launched “Healing Wounds” in February 2005 in Kabul. Healing Wounds is the report of a study, led by Dr Surendra Varma, Head of Communication and Information Services at ICARDA, of the CGIAR’s role in rebuilding agriculture across CWANA, Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Pacific. The report was produced at ICARDA and published by the CGIAR.

“The Government of Afghanistan is happy that the CGIAR and the Future Harvest Consortium chose Kabul for the main launch of Healing Wounds,” said Minister Ramin. “I will personally present a copy to President Hamid Karzai.”

Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, Director General of ICARDA, explained the genesis and significance of Healing Wounds and presented examples of the work of the CGIAR centers in



H.E. Obaidullah Ramin (center), Afghanistan Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food, along with Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy (right), Director General of ICARDA, and Dr Serge Verniau (left), FAO Representative in Afghanistan, launched “Healing Wounds” in Kabul on 24 February 2005.

Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestine and other countries affected by conflict and natural disasters.

“Healing Wounds consolidates the information from the CGIAR centers on rebuilding agriculture. The case studies covered in the report were analyzed to draw lessons that could be used to make the partnerships between research and aid organizations more efficient,” he said.

The launch ceremony was attended by a host of dignitaries, including Minister Ramin; H.E. Mohamed Sharif, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Dr Edwin C. Price Jr., Vice Chancellor of Texas A&M University; and representatives from CIP, CIMMYT, IPGRI, AVRDC, DFID, USAID, FAO, DACAAR, IFDC and Mercy Corps.

The media was well represented as well – BBC, Free Radio

Europe, Al-Jazeera TV, Radio Tehran, Chinese News Agency, Internews Afghanistan, Voice of America and many others.

New research portfolio of ICARDA

On 1 January 2005, ICARDA implemented a realigned research portfolio which consolidated its 19 research projects into six Mega-Projects (MPs).

The new portfolio is designed to be a coherent poverty-focused program, to address the key problems of the dry areas, optimize synergy in research, and bring to bear on the Center’s collective knowledge, expertise and resources in the most effective and efficient manner possible (see page 10 for more information).

Center-Commissioned External Reviews

A Center-Commissioned External Review (CCER) of ICARDA's natural resource management and socioeconomics research took place from 28 March to 7 April 2005 at the Center's headquarters. The CCER Panel was chaired by Dr Donald Slack, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA. Dr Patrick Cunningham, Professor of Animal Genetics, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland and formerly Director of the Animal Production and Health Division at FAO; Dr Fatima Nassif from Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Settat, Morocco; and Dr Peter Midmore, Professor of Applied

Economics, School of Management and Business, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, U.K., served as Panel members. Dr Kjersti Larsen, ICARDA Board member, served as Observer on the Panel. Dr Slack presented the Panel report at ICARDA on 7 April 2005.

A draft report of the CCER of the Integrated Gene Management program, which commenced in 2004, was presented on 25 April at ICARDA by the Chair of the review Panel, Dr Calvin Qualset, Professor Emeritus, University of California. Prof. Mahmud Duwayri, University of Jordan, formerly with FAO; Prof. Ivan Buddenhagen, Consultant, formerly with the University of California, Davis; and Dr

Mogens Lemonius, Consultant, formerly with FAO, served as Panel members.

A CCER of ICARDA's activities in Human Resource Development and Capacity Building of NARS was conducted from 4 to 10 June 2005 at the Center's headquarters. The Panel consisted of Prof. Dr Richard A. Jones, Yale University, USA (Chair); Dr Abderrazak Daaloul, Director General, Agricultural Production, Ministry of Agriculture, Tunisia; and Dr Kausar Malik, Director General, Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission and formerly PARC Chair. Prof. Dr Richard Gareth Wyn Jones, ICARDA Board member, served as Observer on the CCER Panel.

Varieties released in 2005

Crop	Country	Variety name	Other name	Pedigree	Special features
Barley	Ethiopia	Mezezo Baso			Released for short rainy season Released for short rainy season
	Libya	Wadi attba 2 Wadi attba 1			
Chickpea	Australia	Nafice		FLIP97-503-CLIMAS	High yielding and disease resistant
		Almaz		FLIP97-530-CLIMAS	High yielding and disease resistant
	Azerbaijan	Narmin	FLIP 95-65C	FLIP85-86C x FLIP86-5C	High yield, <i>Ascochyta</i> blight resistance, suitable for early spring planting
	Ethiopia	ICCV-92033			
	Kazakhstan	ICARDA-1	FLIP 96-137C	FLIP91-105C x ILC3385	High yield, <i>Ascochyta</i> blight resistance, suitable for early spring planting
	Kyrgyzstan	Rafat	FLIP98-121C x FLIP93-2C	(FLIP90-15C x ILC5362)	High yield, <i>Ascochyta</i> blight resistance, suitable for early spring planting
Faba Bean	Ethiopia	PGRC/E 25041-2-2			
Forages	Ethiopia	Wasie	ILAT-LS-LS-B22	ILAT-LS-LS-B22	low β -ODAP, moderately resistant to powdery mildew disease
Lentil	Australia	Boomer Nipper	CIPAL 402 CIPAL 203	ILL 5722 x Palouse (Indianhead x ILL 5588) x ILL 5588	High yield, tall and vigorous growth High yield, moderately resistant to <i>Ascochyta</i> blight and <i>Botrytis</i> grey mold diseases
WF Wheat	Kyrgyzstan	Almira	F.474S10.1		

Building partnerships

Challenge Programs

ICARDA is a partner in three of the CGIAR pilot Challenge Programs (CPs):

- *Water and Food*: ICARDA received funding for three projects in this CP through the competitive grants program: two for work on scarce water resources/drought in the Karkheh River Basin, Iran; and one for work on integrated gene management in the Nile River Basin within Eritrea.
- *HarvestPlus*: ICARDA is responsible in this CP for identifying barley and lentil germplasm with high concentration of β -carotene, iron, and zinc.
- *Generation*: ICARDA is a full member of the Generation Consortium and is involved in a series of commissioned research projects and one competitive grant project.

Systemwide and ecoregional programs and other CGIAR initiatives

ICARDA leads the Ecoregional Program for Sustainable Agricultural Development in Central Asia and the Caucasus (ERP-CAC) and continues to participate in Systemwide Programs: Systemwide Genetic Resources Program, Systemwide Livestock Program, Systemwide Program on Integrated Pest Management, Community Action and Property Rights Initiative, Systemwide Soil Water and Nutrient Management Program, Systemwide Program on Participatory Research and Gender Analysis, and the Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management.

ICARDA was co-convenor with ICRISAT of a Challenge Program pre-proposal on 'Desertification, Drought, Poverty and Agriculture' that has evolved into 'Oasis' recently and approved as a new Systemwide Program by the Alliance Executive to link Center efforts to combat desertification in support of the UN Convention.

ICARDA is currently the convener of the INRM group of the Alliance Executive. The Center is also an active partner in six projects on Information Technology and Knowledge Management, and leads the project entitled 'Utilization of Intelligent Information Systems for Plant Protection'. ICARDA also participates in a number of other Inter-Center Initiatives including the Consortium for the Spatial Information, International Crop Information System network, activities of the Standing Panel on Impact Assessment, Inter-Center Training Group, and Global Open Food and Agriculture University.

Other collaboration

ICARDA had a joint appointment of a senior scientist with IFPRI until August 2005; the position will be re-filled in 2006. The other joint appointments are: one with IWMI on marginal quality water and the other with ILRI on small ruminant health. ICARDA has a barley breeder posted at CIMMYT, who manages the ICARDA/CIMMYT barley improvement program for Latin America.

ICARDA hosts a senior visiting scientist from CIRAD (Centre de

Cooperation Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement), France, and a senior visiting scientist and post-doctoral fellow from JIRCAS (Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences). The Program Facilitation Unit (PFU) of the ERP for CAC, within ICARDA's regional office in Tashkent, hosts an Environment Management Officer supported by the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD and a scientist from AVRDC. Additionally, the PFU houses the Central Asia and the Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (CACAARI).

ICARDA's West Asia regional office in Amman, Jordan, houses the secretariat of the regional forum for the Near East and North Africa, AARINENA. The ICARDA Office in Kabul, Afghanistan, houses staff from CIP and formerly staff from IPGRI. In Ankara, Turkey, ICARDA shares an office with CIMMYT. In Pakistan, ICARDA's office provides assistance to CIMMYT and IRRI by managing financial arrangements for their projects in Pakistan.

ICARDA leads the Future Harvest Consortium to Rebuild Agriculture in Afghanistan (FHCRAA) and has formed a similar Consortium to Rebuild Agriculture in Iraq. ICARDA began managing competitive grant funding in 2002/03 under a USAID grant to rebuild agriculture in Afghanistan.

Based on the success of this model, DFID Afghanistan in 2004 contracted ICARDA to manage the Research in Alternative

Livelihoods Fund (RALF). The RALF projects continued in 2005. ICARDA, on behalf of FHCRAA, also manages a USAID-funded project for CIP on potato improvement in Afghanistan. ICARDA manages a Moroccan Collaborative Grant Facility for part of the Moroccan CGIAR contribution.

To supplement its critical mass, ICARDA outsources some of its specific research components to centers of excellence in the region, for example: the Central Laboratory for Computer Expert Systems in Egypt for the development of computer expert systems; the Agricultural Genetic Engineering Research Institute, also in Egypt, for genetic transformation of cereals; and the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA) in Morocco for wheat breeding for Hessian fly resistance.

ICARDA harnesses 'new science' through many joint programs with advanced research institutes, which are documented in the project narratives. Cooperative agreements with the private sector span, for example, cooperation in malting barley improvement for the developing world, village-based seed enterprises, and molecular biology. NGOs and development agencies are key partners in linking ICARDA's research to development.

Honors and awards

- His Majesty King Abdullah II bin Al Hussein of Jordan conferred the Al-Istiklal (independence) medal, one of the highest decorations in Jordan, on Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, Director

General, in August. H.E. Akel Biltagi, a senior member of the Royal Court of Jordan and Adviser to the King, presented the medal at ICARDA headquarters in August. Also, Prof. Dr El-Beltagy was elected Fellow of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing Countries during the 16th General Meeting of the Academy in Alexandria, Egypt, in November; and Chair of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) in December. As GFAR Chair, he will serve as a member of the CGIAR Executive Committee.

- Dr Raj Paroda, Regional Coordinator, ICARDA-CAC and Head, PFU-CGIAR, received the prestigious Norman E. Borlaug Award for 2005 from the President of India. The award, instituted by the Coromandel Fertilizers, is named after the eminent agricultural scientist and Nobel Laureate, Dr Norman E. Borlaug.
- Dr Ashutosh Sarker, Lentil Breeder, and other members of his team, were honored by the Government of Western Australia in February for their contribution to the development of Ceora, the first low-toxin grass pea variety to be released in Australia. Dr Sarker was also honored by the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute for his contribution to pulse research in Bangladesh.
- Dr Mustapha El Bouhssini, Entomologist, was appointed Adjunct Faculty Member in the Department of Entomology at



On behalf of the ICARDA-Tashkent office team, Ms Ilona Kononenko, Project Administrative Officer, received the CGIAR Science Award for the Outstanding Support Team from Mr Ian Johnson, CGIAR Chair.

Kansas State University, USA, in December.

- The scientific support team for the CGIAR Program for Central Asia and the Caucasus (CAC) and ICARDA's Regional Program for CAC, based in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, won the "CGIAR Outstanding Scientific Support Team Award." The team consists of Ms Ilona Kononenko, Project Administrative Officer; Ms Madina Musaeva, Research Fellow; Ms Aziza Kalendarova, Office Secretary, PFU-CGIAR; Ms Nadejda Loginova, Junior Office Secretary, ICARDA-CAC; and Ms Nodira Adilova, Secretary to CACAARI.
- The Jordanian National Program presented an award to ICARDA's West Asia Regional Program in April for the fruitful collaborative work on water harvesting techniques and rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems in the *Badia* area of the country.

Tribute to Dr Robert D. Havener, 1930-2005

Dr Robert (Bob) D. Havener, former Board Chair of ICARDA, passed away on 3 August 2005. Bob was a unique combination of the deep and wide knowledge he amassed during his life-time, the integrity he exuded in whatever he did, the true concern he had for improving the quality of life of the poor, great intelligence and a strong character.

"Bob had a special place for ICARDA in his heart," said Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, Director General. "He was not only one of the founding fathers of ICARDA but also one who guided its development into a 'Center of Excellence' to serve the complex problems of agriculture in the world's dry areas. He strongly believed in the mandate and mission of ICARDA, and was committed to improve the well-being of the poor. He was a mentor and a guide to many staff of the Center. As the Board Chair of ICARDA, he steered the Center with great wisdom and foresight during the period when the whole CGIAR System was undergoing major transformation. Under his stewardship the Center continued to march forward with great confidence. Even after his leaving the Office of the Board Chair, the senior management of the Center continued to turn to him for his wise counsel and guidance".

Dr Margaret Catley-Carlson, ICARDA Board Chair, said: "Bob truly loved ICARDA, the staff



and scientists, the good work they do and the zeal they bring to the enormous challenges of agriculture in the dry areas. I had the great honor of succeeding – not replacing – him as Chair of the ICARDA Board: nobody could have replaced him. He was called on to lead, manage and govern great organizations. No room, no meeting, no occasion failed to become a better place when he and Liz were present. He adored and cherished Liz, and her constant traveling with him brought great pleasure to all of us."

Bob Havener last visited ICARDA with the Nobel Laureate Dr Norman Borlaug in May 2005. He took great pride in showing the work of ICARDA to Dr Borlaug. Who could imagine that Bob had come to say farewell to ICARDA and its staff and to have a last look at the Center that he built and nurtured for nearly three decades?

Bob Havener has been taken away from us, but his legacy would always remain with us. His smiling face in his portrait in the "Robert D. Havener Executive Wing" in the administration building of ICARDA, which was dedicated to him on the 26th Presentation Day of the Center in 2003 in appreciation of his outstanding support to ICARDA and the CWANA region, will continue to inspire the entire ICARDA community to move forward on the path of progress shown by him.

May the departed soul rest in peace.