

**Minutes of 6th National Agroforestry Working Group, Bangladesh (NAWGB)
meeting held on 08 August 2006 at BARC**

The 6th meeting of the National Agroforestry Working Group, Bangladesh (NAWGB) was held on 08 August 2006 at 10:00 am in the Training Room of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC). Focal points from 15 organizations (21 members) participated in the meeting (list attached). The following decisions were taken in the meeting:

Agenda	Decisions	Responsible Organization
1. Confirmation of the 5th NAWGB meeting minutes	Minutes of the 5th NAWGB meeting held on 12 February 2006 were confirmed.	All NAWGB member organizations
2. Review of national program on fruit tree planting materials production and distribution	BARI and BRAC presented progress of their program on production and distribution of quality fruit tree planting materials. BARI indicated that they are in the process of developing an effective and sustainable supply chain of production and distribution of fruit tree germplasm. Through organizing fruit exhibitions, they have collected different fruit trees which are conserved in germplasm centre at Debiganj. In addition, BARI has established four elite multiplication block in four stations namely Gazipur, Jamalpur, Rangpur and Akbarpur. Those centres would be the main distribution centre of elite planting materials to extension agencies (DAE and BADC) along with national NGOs who would further multiply planting materials for distribution to registered nursery owners associations in district and upazila. Until the system is established, the planting materials produced by BARI is not enough to support a national system of production and distribution of quality planting materials (fruit trees). However, BARI recognize the need for setting up national system and in next meeting on distribution of germplasm at BARI, attempt would be made to supply planting materials to stakeholders like BRAC, PROSHIKA, BADC AND DAE as much as possible. BRAC and PROSHIKA stated informed that they have joined national distribution system of quality planting materials and by now they have organized nursery owners in most of the upazila. The nursery owners would feel discouraged if the planting materials are not available in the right time. BARI is requested to pay highest attention in establishing national system rather than ad-hoc distribution of planting materials.	BARI, DAE, BADC, BRAC and PROSHIKA
3. Progress on preparation of Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation report	The progress on preparation of PM&E report was discussed. It was noted that in most cases, the participants who were involved in preparing the PM&E guidelines have not shared their learning with the focal points. Focal points were requested to have input from them and influence them in preparing PM&E report which has to be presented in the upcoming workshop to be held on 13-14 August 2006.	All members
4. Progress on preparation of report on Communication Strategy	Some institutes did not submit draft communication strategy as yet. It was learnt that they were in confusion about the system of preparation of draft communication strategy. For further clarification, NAWGB will send sample of draft communication strategy prepared by one of the institutes .	MD (NRM) and Convenor
5. Preparation of draft National Agroforestry Policy	Dr. Gul Hossain was engaged to review and synthesize the thematic papers. He will come up with comments within two weeks. The comments will be communicated to the authors. After having revised paper, a national seminar will be organized on agroforestry where thematic papers will be	MD (NRM) and Convenor

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6. Formation of steering committee for agroforestry	presented. Based on the discussion in the seminar and input from the thematic papers, the national consultant will develop draft agroforestry policy. NAWGB, BARC in discussion with Team Leader-SAAKTI shall prepare the ToR for the consultant. Convenor informed that the Office Memorandum for the Steering Committee will be issued soon.	MD (NRM) and Convenor
7. NAWGB centered Metadatabase	A metadatabase of information resources will be developed. The information resources include published research articles, reports, leaflets, booklets, posters, CD-ROM, audio and video documentary related to agroforestry of all NAWGB member organizations. Every institute need to have a metadata policy. The elements of metadata should concentrate Dublin Core2. A consistent structure for the descriptions will be developed through consultation with stakeholder Institutions. The outcome of the consultation will be presented in the next meeting.	MD (NRM) and Convenor
8. Member Secretary of NAWGB	Dr. Mohammad Shahjahan, PSO (Forest), BARC has to take responsibilities of Member Secretary of NAWGB.	Dr. Md. Shahjahan
9. Sharing experiences on Thailand Study Visit	Experiences of Thailand study visit was shared. The scientists who participated in the study visit will submit a report on lessons learned from the study visit to MD (NRM) and Convenor of NAWGB. The report will be consolidated and synthesized to distribute to member organizations.	NAWGB
10. Agroforestry related M.Sc. and PhD program review	The universities conducting research in agroforestry for M.Sc. and PhD programs were requested to send information on the activities to NAWGB. It will be useful for updating database on research and development in agroforestry. The information would be stored in website.	All universities
Misc.	During special meeting, relevant experts from different institutes and universities would be invited. In case of fruit tree planting materials, Dr. Mofazzal from BSMRAU may be invited. To facilitate establishing national system of production and distribution of quality planting materials, collaboration between BARI and BAU (especially FTIP) is essential. BARI is requested to take necessary steps so that all released varieties of fruits from BARI are available at germplasm centre of BAU.	MD (NRM) Director (HRC), BARI

(Farid Uddin Ahmed)
Member Director (NRM), BARC
and
Convenor, NAWGB

List of Participants in NAWG Meeting held on 12 February 2006

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