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Newsletter Vol.16

Welcoming Cameroon and Central African Republic



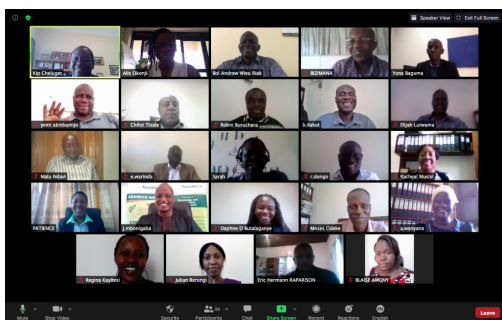
Dear AR4D colleagues,

ASARECA Board of Directors has approved the admission of the Central African Republic (CAR) and the Republic of Cameroon as the 13th and 14th Member States of ASARECA respectively. In approving the membership, the 29th Board of Directors Meeting noted that CAR and Cameroon are geographically located in the ASARECA sub-region, yet the two countries have for long missed out on the benefits of regionally convened AR4D initiatives. Plus, join me in welcoming Dr. Geoffrey

Mkamilo, who was recently appointed the Chairman ASARECA Board of Directors. Dr. Mkamilo, was appointed unanimously by the BoD during the 29th BoD meeting on July 29-30. He is the Director General of the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) and comes in as a replacement to Dr. Hussein Abubaker, who was until recently the Director General ARC, Sudan and BoD chair.

Prof. Jean Jacques Mbonigaba Muhinda
Executive Secretary—ASARECA

Latest updates



TARI Director General, Dr. Mkamilo appointed ASARECA BoD chair: The Director General of the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI), Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo, has been appointed the Chairman

[Cameroon, CAR join ASARECA:](#) During their 29th ordinary meeting on July 29th -31st, the ASARECA Board of Directors approved the admission of the Central African Republic (CAR) and the Republic of Cameroon as the 13th and 14th Member States of ASARECA.

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[Closer Africa-Europe collaboration needed to deliver food and nutrition security roadmap--Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa \(FARA\):](#)

Africa's apex organization for coordinating and advocating for agricultural research and innovation has called on African and European countries to prioritize investment in science, technology and innovation for agriculture on the continent. FARA updated partners on a joint initiative between the European Union and the African Union to promote sustainable agriculture during its General Assembly this week.

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[Soils, A Priority of African Agriculture:](#)

Agricultural productivity including livestock production is under threat in Africa because of continuing decline in soil quality. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 65 percent of arable land suffers from soil degradation due to erosion-

ASARECA Board of Directors. Dr.Mkamilo was appointed unanimously by the BoD during the 29th BoD meeting held virtually from July 29-30. He comes in as a replacement to Dr. Hussein Abubaker who was until recently the Director General ARC, Sudan and BoD chair.

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[ASARECA and CABI sign MoU to Strengthen Agricultural Research for Development:](#)

ASARECA and CABI have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) that will enable the two organisations to jointly work towards promoting their shared objectives and areas of strategic focus in Eastern and Central Africa. The MoU formalises and strengthens a long-standing partnership that has existed for over two decades, with each of the organisations individually or collectively contributing to numerous agricultural research for development initiatives in the region.

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[Post-Harvest Loss Management – A Viable Alternative for Food and Nutrition Security in Sub-Saharan Africa:](#)

Reducing post-harvest losses through effective loss management strategies is a viable strategy to improving food security and nutrition in Africa. Despite Africa's huge agricultural potential including vast fertile arable lands, growing diverse population, increasing demand for food and a vibrant young population, over 200 million people in Sub-Sahara Africa continue to live in poverty and suffer from food and nutrition

induced losses of topsoil and soil nutrients. Restoring and rehabilitating the health of soil in Africa is a viable intervention towards promoting food security in the region. Despite Africa's vast land resources, less than half of it is currently utilized for agriculture with only 16 percent of the arable land considered as high quality.

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insecurity.



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