

FINAL CONCLUSION
Executive Committee Meeting
Global Consortium of Higher Education and Research for Agriculture
(GCHERA)
May 13-14, 2002, Kiev, Ukraine

Having all items of the Agenda (annex 1) discussed, members of the Executive Committee of Global Consortium of Higher Education and Research for Agriculture (annex 2) have decided the following:

1. To approve the activity of GCHERA working groups, to motivate GCHERA members to fulfill objectives set up by the Second GCHERA Conference (San-Francisco, USA, 2001) and the current Executive Committee meeting. To encourage the heads of the working groups in their responsibilities on preparation for the Third GCHERA Global Conference in 2003.
2. To encourage and support the cooperation of GCHERA with FAO and UNESCO in spheres of mutual interest. To approve, in principle, the draft Memorandum of Cooperation between GCHERA and FAO (annex 3). The members of the Executive Committee are to review and improve the legal aspects of the Memorandum within two weeks and the GCHERA President Dr. Dmytro Melnychuk and Director of Library and Documentation Systems Division of FAO, Dr. Anton Mangstl, are to improve the document according to any input from the Executive Committee members prior to signing. President Dr. Dmytro Melnychuk is authorized to be responsible for enhancing and strengthening contacts with UNESCO for carrying out the joint activities and inviting this organization to contribute to the Third GCHERA Global Conference in 2003.
3. To assign the GCHERA President, Dr. Dmytro Melnychuk, to contact potential sources of financial support including FAO, UNESCO and other donors to carry out the following joint projects:
 - a. Develop of GCHERA recommendations to improve curricula and syllabi for training specialists in agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine;

- b. Support the integration of higher agricultural education institutions into the world informational agricultural network;
- c. Develop *The World Higher Educational Institutions Directory (The Web-based Catalog)* of agricultural higher educational institutions;
- d. Contribute to the development of leadership skills in agricultural youth;
- e. Implement the International GCHERA Exhibition “The World Agricultural Education, Research and Technologies of the 3rd Millenium”, with exhibits invited in the following areas:
 - ⇒ materials for training specialists in agriculture, forestry, fishery and the veterinary medicine;
 - ⇒ technologies and distance learning;
 - ⇒ contemporary agricultural and biotechnologies;
 - ⇒ educational and research equipment for testing of food and agricultural products for quality and safety; and related to their certification and standards;
 - ⇒ Others.
- f. Organize and hold the Third GCHERA Global Conference in 2003.

4. The title of the Third GCHERA Global Conference is “Improvement of Agricultural Education, Science, Technology, and Extension to Increase Food Quantity and Improve Food Quality and Safety”. The main topics of the Conference will be:

- a. Current achievements in world agricultural science and practice, and the state and perspectives for the world food resource development.
- b. Globalization of the curricula and syllabi for training the specialists (bachelor, specialist, master levels) for agriculture, forestry, fishery and the veterinary medicine in the follow areas:
 - ⇒ Fundamental Natural and Social Sciences in Agricultural Education
 - ⇒ Agronomy and Horticultural Sciences
 - ⇒ Animal Science
 - ⇒ Agricultural Engineering
 - ⇒ Agricultural Economics
 - ⇒ Agricultural Management, Sales, and Marketing

- ⇒ Agricultural Ecology and Environmental Protection
- ⇒ Food Science, Quality and Safety
- ⇒ Crop protection (pests and diseases)
- ⇒ Plant Medicine
- ⇒ Land Management and Natural Resources
- ⇒ Forestry
- ⇒ Fishery
- ⇒ Veterinary Medicine
- ⇒ International Law in Agricultural Business.

The objective will be to establish expert groups to focus on each of the above-mentioned areas and to encourage the most prominent universities to lead these groups. The output of these groups will be a set of recommendations for a core curriculum in each of the thematic areas noted above.

While working on the core recommendations, the expert groups will be expected to take into consideration the current achievements/needs of global agricultural theory and practice, the social setting of agriculture, key issues with regard to environmental protection, the compelling need for improvement and sustaining of agricultural and food product quality and safety, and youth leadership development.

- c. International integration of science and education as an effective way to increase food quantity and improve the world food quality and safety.
5. To agree that the Conference and the Exhibition are to be held simultaneously in Kiev, Ukraine within the period from September 15 till October 6, 2003 (the precise dates will be announced at a later date).
 6. To commit the Assistant Dean of Global and National Agricultural Programs (Iowa State University), Dr David Acker, to open discussions with the two leading international journals on agricultural education to determine if collaboration with GCHERA is possible.

7. To consider the matter of GCHERA Executive Committee member rotation according to the order established by the GCHERA Bylaws (as amended during the second Global Conference in San Francisco in 2001) at the next meeting of the GCHERA Executive Committee prior to the Third GCHERA Global Conference in 2003.
8. To approve the financial expenses of GCHERA leadership during the period from the Second GCHERA Conference in San Francisco till May 14, 2002. To assign the GCHERA Secretariat to strengthen the process of collecting membership dues and seeking donations from sponsors.
9. To bring to the attention of the Executive Committee members, heads of working groups and GCHERA members the necessity of personal involvement in seeking sources for preparing and supporting the Third GCHERA Global Conference in 2003.