

# **Rice-Wheat Information Sheet**

**No.1**

## **Welcome**

It is planned to send this information sheet fortnightly to keep you up-to-date on the progress of this initiative. It is being sent by the Facilitator as an interim newsletter until the regional Steering Committee can decide on the need for and form of a Project Newsletter. Please communicate immediately any corrections or additions needed to this information sheet.

## **Facilitator**

Dr. D G Faris, appointed for a six month term, arrived in Delhi on 23 August 1994 to take up his duties as Interim Facilitator. The Facilitator's office will be housed temporarily at the ICRISAT Delhi Office. The address will be: Dr D G Faris Interim Facilitator Sustainability of Rice-Wheat Systems C/o ICRISAT 23, Golf Links New Delhi - 110 003, India. Phone No : (011) 4615931 or 4617892 Fax No : (011) 4619865

The advertisement seeking candidates for the permanent Facilitator has been circulated. Copies are available for potential candidates. Please inform us of anyone who might be suitable. The Interim Facilitator is working to get this initiative operational quickly because of the pressing need to have it provide answers to ensure that the rice-wheat production system will continue to help meet the food needs of South Asia. Dr. Faris will be attending the All India Wheat Improvement Project Workshop, 30 August - 2 September 1994 at Ludhiana and the National Conference on Sustaining Rice-Wheat Cropping System in the Indo-Gangetic Plains, 8-9 September 1994 in Lucknow.

## **National Convenors**

The following people have been identified as National Convenors and hence members of the Regional Technical Coordinating Committee (RTCC): Bangladesh - Director, Wheat Research Centre, BARI, Dr. M.A. Razzaque India - to be indicated Nepal - Mr. Dhruva N. Manandhar, Director of Crops and Horticultural Research Pakistan - Dr. M. Akbar, Director, General, NARC

## **National Workshops**

Plans are being made by each National Convenors to hold a Workshop in their country in order to prepare (a) a national strategy plan on key activities at the national and regional levels, and (b) an inventory on previous and on-going research activities including sources of external funding. The results of these workshops will be used by each National Convenor when he attends the RTCC to be held in October 1994. At the RTCC the Coordinators will be proposing what the research program in each of their countries would like to offer as part of the overall collaborative program. They will also be proposing priority areas where more research is needed. The place and date of the RTCC meeting are yet to be set. Arrangements are being made to forward the \$1,000 being provided by IFAD to each country to help defray the cost of their workshop.

## **Chairman of Regional Steering Committee(RSC)**

Prof V.L. Chopra has retired from the position of Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Until a new Director General is identified, Dr J.C. Pant, is acting Chairman of the RSC.

## **Future R-W Information Sheets**

Don Faris will be glad to receive items about progress or suggestions about types of information to be included. A distinct letter head will be developed in due course. Until such time the ICRISAT letter head is being used.