



CENTRO INTERNACIONAL DE MEJORAMIENTO DE MAIZ Y TRIGO

INTERNATIONAL MAIZE AND WHEAT IMPROVEMENT CENTER

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May 14, 1971

24 MAY 1971

GBB	24/5	MB
RGA		Rba
JED		JED

Dr. Harry L. Wilhelm
Representative
The Ford Foundation
53 Lodi Estate
New Delhi, INDIA

Dear Harry:

Although I haven't had an opportunity to review your letter of April 21st with Norm, I think I know his feelings and I have discussed it with Ernie.

In regard to your first point we would certainly like to move ahead with arrangements whereby an Indian wheat specialist and an Indian corn specialist could spend a year at CIMMYT as visiting scientists and that this would be continued over a five year period. To implement this program we would suggest that if the funds were to be made available to CIMMYT, we then could contact the ICAR and IARI with specific invitations. This system is suggested on the basis that it should permit the selection of the best possible people.

Your second point. We in CIMMYT certainly consider Gene Saari's program of very real importance and value to our cooperative wheat improvement programs, particularly in Asia and to a certain extent in the middle east. However, to pick up his direct supporting costs we will need to obtain funds in addition to those available in our core budget - that is, some kind of special grant. An example of such a grant is the Ford Foundation Grant 68-848 in support of the accelerated wheat program in North Africa. The reason for this is our Board of Directors has reaffirmed several times the policy that funding of staff who are posted outside of Mexico must be from special

project funds and not from core funds. When I speak of core funds I mean the \$ 750,000 dollar donations received annually from Ford, Rockefeller and US AID. Thus, my question is do you think the Ford Foundation would be prepared to consider a special grant to CIMMYT for the purpose of funding Saari's activities in the regional wheat disease project.

Sincerely yours,

E.J. Wellhausen
Director General

rmv.

C.c. Dr. N.E. Borlaug
C.c. Dr. E.W. Sprague
C.c. Dr. K.W. Finlay
C.c. Dr. Guy B. Baird