

# INTERNATIONAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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January 17, 1989

Dear Bob:

Many thanks for your letter concerning the containment facilities for IRRI. I am aware of the needs, I share the impatience of my colleagues here, and I know that time is very short.

When I arrived in February last year the climate was so unfriendly, the absence of confidence so obvious, and IRRI's position really not strong enough to get our unconventional part of biotech-research pushed. Under the circumstances at that time, the best at least I came forward with was patience. In the meantime the emotions have cooled down in many areas and we can talk about biotech research again. What I have in mind is a common effort together with the interested national institutions in Los Baños and Manila. Enclosed are some letters + memos which gives you some of the background.

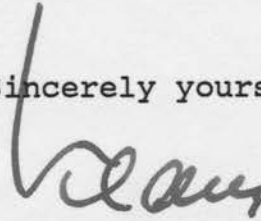
We will definitely put a containment building project in our next plan and I would like to have it built together with the lab-building project we are starting in a couple of weeks. Your financial support in this respect is most encouraging and helpful. Since we might have to convince potential donors to support a building project, a letter from you emphasizing IRRI's future role and RF's willingness to support such a project could perhaps be helpful.

Hubert has just arrived this week and we will have a meeting during the next days with Lesley Sitch and Rebecca Nelson. Immediately after that you will hear from us again. The postal facilities at the moment are not as they were before. Important mail should therefore go via E-mail or DHL.

Hubert will be in touch with you shortly regarding allocation of funds and reports required.

On February 15 we will send you our final version of the strategy for TAC.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Klaus Lampe', written in a cursive style.

Klaus Lampe

Dr. Robert W. Herdt  
Director, Agricultural Sciences  
The Rockefeller Foundation  
1133 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, N.Y. 10036  
U. S. A.

P.S.: Thank you very much for the report on Bio containment.

cc: Dr. H.G. Zandstra  
KL/erc