

CONFIDENTIAL

32

Ministry Paper No. 2/80

Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on
Agriculture

The Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, (IICA) a specialised agency of the Organisation of American States for the agricultural sector, was established in compliance with a Resolution adopted by the Eighth American Scientific Congress, held in Washington D.C. in 1940 and in accordance with the terms of the Convention was opened to signature by the American republics on January 15, 1944.

Jamaica signed the Convention September 20, 1972 and membership became effective on October 20, 1972.

Jamaica's contribution to IICA's Budget hitherto had been assessed at US\$16,870. The Board of Directors, however, at its Eighteenth Meeting held from May 14-16, 1979 by Resolution, abided by previous decision that only Member States of the Institute will be included in the scale of contributions.

As Canada and Guyana are not Member States of the Organisation of American States, the corresponding quotas were added to the total amount of quotas from Member States of IICA. Accordingly, Jamaica's quota contribution has been increased from US\$16,870 to US\$21,537.

In recent years the Convention has been under review and a revised draft document was approved by the Board of Directors of IICA on November 16, 1978. The new Convention was signed by Member Governments on March 6, 1979. Signing on behalf of Jamaica was the Hon. A.A. Rattray, Ambassador to the United States and to the OAS.

The significant amendment of the old Convention lies in the change of name of the Organisation from the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences (IICA) to the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA). This is being done to retain the acronym in the four languages in which IICA operates.

Cabinet by Decision dated 26.11.79, approved the new Convention on IICA for presentation to Parliament.

Parliament is invited to ratify the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture.

The new Convention is tabled herewith.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF JAMAICA

S.E. Mullings
Minister of Agriculture
January 3, 1980.

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