

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA); Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA).

Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2009 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m., times may be adjusted).

Location: Jack Morton Auditorium, Media and Public Affairs Building, George Washington University, 805 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC 20052.

Please note that this is the anticipated agenda and is subject to change.

Keynote: The Administrator-designate, or if there is not yet a designated nominee, the Acting Administrator, Alonzo Fulgham, will present an update from the front office of USAID on the future direction of USAID under the new Administration.

Reflections from the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid: The ACVFA offers its perspective on three important issues which have received significant contributions: leadership, partnership, and a strengthened USAID development capacity for discussion.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Persons wishing to attend the meeting can register online at http://www.usaid.gov/about_usaid/acvfa or with Deborah Lewis at dlewis@usaid.gov or 202-712-0936.

Dated: February 2, 2009.

Deborah Lewis,

Office of the Chief Operating Officer, U.S. Agency for International Development.

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AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Board for International Food and Agricultural Development; One Hundred and Fifty-Sixth Meeting; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given of the one hundred and fifty-sixth meeting of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD). The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. on February 24, 2009 at the National Press Club located at 529 14th St., NW., Washington, DC. The venue will be the 1st Amendment Room which is located on the 13th floor of the National Press Club. "Higher Education: A Critical Partner in Global Agricultural Development" continues to be the central theme of BIFAD's initiatives and the February meeting.

Dr. Robert Easter, Chairman of BIFAD, will preside over the proceedings. Dr. Easter is Dean of the College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environment Sciences at the University of Illinois.

The strengthening of USAID and university relations to achieve unified, and cooperative actions on international agricultural development, especially pertaining to food security, is central to the Agenda set for BIFAD's 156th meeting. The 156th meeting builds on the Board's recent initiatives, including the Conference of Deans (April 2008); the White Paper (presented to USAID's Administrator in October 2008); and the special dialogue on establishing a university "Brain Trust" (panel of university deans, De Moines meeting October 2008).

BIFAD's morning session will start with a presentation on "Collaboration in Support of U.S. Foreign Assistance Priorities—2009 Outlook," delivered by Karen Turner, Director of USAID's Office of Development Partners (ODP). BIFAD was relocated to USAID's Office of Development Partners in October 2008. This presentation will be followed by the technical reports of BIFAD's technical subcommittee, the Strategic Partnership for Agricultural Research and Education (SPARE) led by Dr. Sandra Russo, Chairperson, of SPARE and will include SPARE's actions on the SPARE Charter, CRSP management, SPARE directions, and the role of

SPARE in support of BIFAD's initiatives.

Following the SPARE presentation the Board will receive an update on legislative actions related to Agriculture and Higher Education. Congressional staff (TBD) will provide comment on directions and funding implications.

Of special interest to program implementers will be BIFAD's report on a three-member team field visit to Kenya. The October 2008 visit, lead by BIFAD Chairman Robert Easter, reviewed selected USAID programs being implemented by USAID/Kenya (country mission) and USAID/East Africa (regional mission). One aspect of the Board's Kenya visit was to gain insights on how the Board and the university community can assist USAID field missions.

Highlighting the morning session will be an interagency panel discussion, "US Government Approaches to Agriculture and Food Security in Africa." David Atwood, Director of the Office of Sustainable Development in USAID's Africa Bureau, assembled the panel and will provide USAID's Africa Bureau perspectives and moderate the discussion. Panel members include Pat Sheikh, Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Kristen Penn, Senior Agricultural Director, Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC); Howard Anderson, Acting Director, Overseas Programming and Training Support, U.S. Peace Corps; and Susan Bradley, Director of Program Planning and Management, Democracy Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance Bureau (DCHA), USAID. The panel's discussion will provide BIFAD with current perspectives on development conditions and food security implications in Africa and serve to expand the dialogue on reaching foreign assistance objectives through cooperation among USG and other partners.

Following an executive luncheon (closed to the public) the Board will continue discussion and consideration of several initiatives to enhance university collaboration with USAID. The Board will discuss recommendations advanced in its White Paper, including strategic and long-term perspectives on international agriculture. Discussion objectives include identifying several priority