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balittan—sukarami  
P.O. Box 34 Padang  
West Sumatra, Indonesia

Balai Penelitian Tanaman Pangan Sukarami

Sukarami Research Institute For Food Crops (Sarif)

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M I N U T E S O F  
SARIF SEMI - ANNUAL MEETING

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SUKARAMI  
SEPTEMBER 13-14, 1984

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Project No. 497 - 0263  
(USAID Loan No.497-T-048)

SARIF SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING -- SUKARAMI  
SEPTEMBER 13-14, 1984

Attendance:

1.	Dr B.H. Siwi	...	Puslitbangtan(CRIFC), Bogor
2.	Mr Wikarna	...	" " "
3.	Mr D.E. Sianturi	...	" " "
4.	Mr Joko Budiarto	...	LITBANG (AARD), Jakarta
5.	Mr Richard Cobb	...	USAID - Jakarta
6.	Mr A.R. Hurdus	...	" "
7.	Mr Desmond O'Riordan	...	" "
8.	Mr Irwan Surjadi	...	" "
9.	Dr W.C. Cummings, Jr.	...	" " (Consultant)
10.	Dr J.E. Delouche	...	" " "
11.	Mr Suntana	...	TEAM-4, Jakarta
12.	Mr Dermizi, M.	...	" "
13.	Dr A. Syarifuddin K.	...	SARIF - Sukarami
14.	Dr Rasidin Azwar	...	" "
15.	Dr Iswandi Hasan Basri	...	" "
16.	Mr Zainal Lamid	...	" "
17.	Mr Azran Tanjung	...	" "
18.	Mr Agusla Taher	...	" "
19.	Mr Firdas Nurdin	...	" "
20.	Mr Yulmar Jastra	...	" "
21.	Mr Ardan Ahmadin	...	" "
22.	Mr Syahrial Alimin	...	" "
23.	Mr Syafnuddin Ibka	...	" "
24.	Dr Fierre Ph. Antoine	...	SARIF/IADS - Sukarami
25.	Mr J.D. Traywick	...	" "
26.	Dr A. Jugsujinda	...	" "
27.	Mr P.S. Srinivasan	...	" "

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S A R P

SEMI - ANNUAL MEETING : SUKARAMI

SEPTEMBER 13-14, 1984

A G E N D A

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13

09:30 AM - 1:00 PM

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Semi-annual Meeting on March 23-24, 1984 ASK
2. First Quarterly Report - 1984 Matters arising ASK
3. Second Quarterly Report - 1984
  - a. Research Highlights - (Zainal Lamid)
  - b. Manpower Developments - (PSS)
  - c. Facilities Development- (JDT)
  - d. Linkages/Extension - (ASK)
  - e. Technical Assistance - (PPA)
  - f. Finance - (PSS)

1:00 - 2:00 PM --- LUNCH BREAK

2:00 - 5:30 PM

4. Status of Construction Suntana
5. Status of Procurement JDT/  
Sianturi
6. Communications ASK
7. Other Matters ASK
8. Next Meeting - Dates & Venue ASK
9. Tour of New Office/Lab Facilities ASK

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

Field Tour to Sitiung.

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MEETING: THURSDAY, SEPT. 13, 1984

Introductory Remarks:

Dr Syarifuddin welcomed all participants attending the semi-annual meeting held at the SARIF headquarters in Sukarami, and requested the Chairman, Dr Siwi, to say a few words before proceeding to the items listed in the agenda.

In his introductory remarks, Dr Siwi indicated that the new Team Leader for IADS/SARP, Dr Pierre Antoine, who replaced Dr Kenneth O. Rachie, is attending the semi-annual meeting for the first time and welcomed him to the SARIF research network.

Mr Alan Hurdus introduced Mr Richard Cobb, new Chief of the recently reorganized Office of Agriculture & Rural Development at USAID--Jakarta, and the following other colleagues attending the meetings: (1) Mr Desmond O'Riordan and (2) Mr Irwan Surjadi - both Engineers from USAID; and the other two USAID Consultants -- (1) Dr Ralph W. Cummings, Jr. -- to review the commodities and research in general with CRIFC/AARD officials; and (2) Dr James E. Delouche from Mississippi State University is here to review seed technology program.

Minutes of the present meeting are summarized below.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Semi-Annual Meeting held in Sukarami, March 23-24, 1984.

With the concurrence of all participants, minutes of the last semi-annual meeting was approved by the Chairman.

2. The SARIF First Quarterly Report - 1984.

There was no comment on the SARIF First Quarterly Report - January-March, 1984.

3. The SARIF Second Quarterly Report - 1984.

3.1. Research Highlights. Mr Zainal Lamid presented the salient features of the experiments conducted during the First Semester - January-June, 1984.

During the reporting period, a total of 46 research programs and 194 research activities comprising 254 trials were planned, and the experimental results for those trials conducted were discussed.

Significant results of the research activities are highlighted in (a) Agro-Economic Studies; (b) Maturing Technologies; and (c) Program Advances.

In addition to the release of high-elevation paddy variety, Batang Agam, by SARIF, Dr Syarifuddin pointed out that another upland rice variety will be released fairly soon which will be named as 'Sitiung I'. He further added that one of the sweet-potato varieties yielded higher than the national level, and the promising lines tested in SARIF are performing better than national check varieties. He then invited questions or comments on the research highlights.

Dr Siwi pointed out on page 10 of the report on "Other Rices", it was reported that the yield level of 5.4 t/ha was obtained with the application of 130 kg N/ha whereas 3.0 t/ha was obtained without any application of nitrogen. He thought it is better to look into the economic aspects involved in this regard. Also he pointed out on page 13 that the yield level of soybean was quite low (5.9 q/ha). He attributed this to insects problem in the area where experiment was conducted. With the application of insecticide, remarkable increase in yield level was noticed, he observed. On cassava, very outstanding yield has been obtained (60 t/ha) which is above national average (8.9 t/ha) and appreciated very much this achievement. Dr Siwi wanted to recommend the best performing/high-yielding cassava variety developed by SARIF for release at national level.

Both Mr Agusli Taher and Mr Firdas Murdin agreed with the remark made by Dr Siwi concerning the application of insecticides for obtaining maximum yield level of soybean.

Dr Rasidin thought it is better to have multi-location testing of cassava before considering release of the variety.

Dr Siwi suggested to send the information on the best performing varieties to CRIFC/AARD which will further be used in the farmers field for transmigration areas.

Dr Syarifuddin stated that the report on the performance of new high yielding variety has already been submitted to the Secretary of the Junior Minister for Agriculture for his information.

Dr Antoine suggested that future presentation of reports could be prepared on a draft-form for discussion at the meeting and after incorporating all suggestions and corrections, bound copies will then be brought out for circulation.

Mr Joko Budiarto from IARD wanted to clarify the following points: (1) Whether the report presented is part of SARP or SARIF? (2) What is the difference between Sitiung and Lampung in economic returns to the farmers? (3) With regard to Palawija, what is the reason between MARIF and SARIF? (4) On Cropping Systems, it is interesting to know that there is no interaction between upland rice and

Dr Syarifuddin clarified that the combined reports of SARP and SARIF are presented in the progress report, and explained that SARP is part of SARIF.

With regard to the difference between Sitiung and Lampung, Dr Syarifuddin said that there is a report available on this summarized by Dr Ferry. Availability of inputs such as improved seeds, fertilizers, insecticides, etc., better soil condition, good crop stand, and marketing are favourable factors farmers have in Lampung areas as compared to Sitiung farmers and hence the difference in their economic returns. Dr Syarifuddin further added that there is no overlap between MARIF and SARIF on the Palawija crop, since the materials tested in SARIF came from Bogor for conducting specific experiment on podzolic soils in Sitiung area on upland rice. He said that SARIF is part of the national

system and the program on Palawija is quite small as compared to MARIF.

Both Dr Aroon and Mr Agusli Taher agreed that the interaction between upland rice and Lamtoro was not quite favourable in view of the soil fertility problem in Sitiung area, and found that it is difficult to establish Lamtoro in acid soil. Dr Syarifuddin thought it is better to try other species such as Caliantra instead of Lamtoro. Dr Iswandi suggested that long term experiments on the interaction of Lamtoro-Nitrogen application-Upland Rice should be conducted.

Dr Siwi suggested to conduct suitable experiments on these critical issues on upland rice in the Sitiung area for observation of the international participants attending monitoring tour and workshop on 'International Upland Rice' to be held in Jakarta/Sukaramei early next year. A preliminary meeting in this regard will be held in Bogor next week and he requested some of the SARF/SARIF staff to participate for finalizing suitable programs.

### 3.2 Manpower Resources and Staff Development.

Mr Srinivasan presented the report on manpower resources and staff development. SARIF's total staff as of June 30, 1984 is 509 which includes 225 regular and 285 temporary staff. Seventeen SARIF staff are presently continuing their long-term training on M.Sc. (13 in Indonesia, 2 in UPLB-Philippines, and 2 in the USA), and 6 are on their Ph.D.s (4 in Indonesia and 2 in the Philippines). During the reporting period, two

SARIF staff successfully completed their Ph.D. program in UPLB-Philippines and returned to the Project.

With regard to the query raised by Mr Cobb on the shortage of long-term trainees (M.S./Ph.D.s), Dr Syarifuddin stated that there is no shortage envisaged as compared to the original target. Also he indicated that there will be an additional batch of long-term trainees sent to IPB-Bogor and other institutions in Indonesia and abroad during the extension period of the SAR Project and also until Pelita IV (1984-89).

### 3.3 Facilities Development.

Mr Traywick reviewed the situation on the farm development, construction, and equipment procurement. Several construction projects need to be completed within the limited period of time. Even though most of the designs are duly approved, and sufficient funds are allocated, he added that the several additional steps required for bidding completion are quite time consuming.

With regard to the procurement, Mr Traywick briefly summarized:

First Order: Completed.

Second Order: Comprising Laboratory and Seed Processing equipment are expected to arrive in Padang port sometime during September.

Third Order: Tendering is underway. Hope to advertise on Oct.13,1984 both in English and Bahasa Indonesia. Evaluation will be completed by end of Nov.1984, and the shipment will be expected to arrive in April 1985.

**Fourth Order:** Several committees have been formed to study Project requirements, and the list of items required will be completed fairly soon. Then specifications will be prepared so the tendering can be carried out.

Mr Traywick pointed out that over \$500,000 was still available for equipment procurement, and he asked the assistance of all staff in arriving at the lists of equipment most appropriate for the Project's projected requirements.

Mr Alan Hurdus reminded that the computer order should be placed well in advance instead of combining it with the Fourth Order. In view of the service facilities available locally, it is better to procure the computer through in-country agents specifying the models manufactured in the U.S.A. However, necessary clearance and waivers need to be obtained for the procurement, he added. Mr Riordan thought it might be expensive to buy locally in view of heavy tax and duty levied on the computers. Dr Syarifuddin said that no duty will be levied on the local purchase, since GOI exemption certificate will be obtained.

Concerning the status of procurement of three micro-buses for the Project (Toyota Hiace), Mr Hurdus assured that he will expedite USAID clearance for obtaining the necessary waiver so as to enable the Project to procure the mini-buses before the end of this year.

### 3.4 Linkages/Extension

Dr Syarifuddin presented the report on the Linkages/Extension activities of SARIF. Three-weeks training course for extension workers, plant protection and subject matter specialists was held here in Sukarami which was conducted by SARIF staff. Dr Syarifuddin added that there is a plan to send another batch of trainees to Sukarami sometime during October. With the establishment of a new University near Solok and for which Dr Rasidin, Head, Plant Breeding-SARIF has been named as Dean (Honorary/part-time), the role of SARIF is increasing rapidly. Linkages with the Andalas University in Padang is even more increasing with the commencement of a new Master's program. Two of the SARIF researchers have recently enrolled for their M.Sc. courses in Andalas University, and the students from Andalas University are working with the SARIF to conduct their thesis problems, Dr Syarifuddin reported.

While commenting on the Linkages/Extension, Dr Siwi suggested that the facilities being established by SARIF in Sitiung should be combined with the Tropsoils/Soils Institute, since this will reduce construction budget for other projects. Dr Syarifuddin readily agreed to extend all facilities to TropSoils/Soils Institute, and if possible, SARIF will provide some locations, housing, etc. Mr Hurdus thought that the activities between the two projects will be effectively carried out.

Dr Syarifuddin said that there will be a meeting in Riau on September 29 with the Extension Staff (PPS) and Dr Iswandi will be attending on behalf of SARIF. With regard to the query on solving problems of extension workers raised by Mr Hurdus, Dr Syarifuddin replied that those problems that are not solved will be included in the experimental programs being conducted in SARIF or referred to elsewhere.

Dr Aron reported that a collaborative research project between Louisiana State University, USA, and SARIF funded by USAID has been approved by AARD. Under this program, scientists exchange and collaborative research will be carried out. Also he mentioned the visit of senior officials from International Potash Institute and their possible interest to collaborate with the Project.

### 3.5 Technical Assistance

Dr Antoine reported on the following four major goals of the SARF/IADS technical assistance: (1) Coordinating with SARIF for building research capability and providing equipment; (2) Collaborating with the SARIF to train man-power in the various key positions; (3) Also coordinate in the planning and in the giving of the necessary orientation of research to the Project; and (4) Directly involve in some of the research work.

Dr Antoine state that the long-range report prepared by Dr Rachie before his departure on June 3, '84, is being edited and the final version will be ready fairly soon.

He added that Dr Perry completed his assignment on economics studies, and unfortunately, no replacement was made, and felt that continued role of economist/social scientist in the Project is most essential. In addition to the on-going research activities of the SARIF, he was concerned with the availability of improved seeds and the improvement of seed production programs. Dr Antoine particularly emphasized the importance of the role of senior advisors (technical assistance) at SARIF beyond the extension period of April 1986 when the research capability need to be strengthened considerably.

He suggested that between now and until April 1986, there should be a continued role of short-term consultants to support the research programs of the SARIF. Dr Perry, who left on August 12, is interested in short-term consultation on computer and reviewing economic analysis. Dr Robert Luse will soon be coming to set up laboratories and training of the staff. A short-term consultant (6 months) on mechanizations and seed processing is due to arrive soon. Another consultant, Dr Doug Keely will be required for statistical analysis and design in relation to crop production.

Dr Siwi was glad that Dr Antoine touched some of the issues beyond 1986. With regard to the man power planning, Dr Siwi indicated that SARIF is in the process of sending several staff for training and felt that some of them will be returning beyond the termination of the SAR Project. He was also concerned with the importance of procurement, facilities development and construction, and particularly emphasized the impact of research.

Mr Hurdus did not see any problem in using the services of Dr Perry as short-term consultant.

Mr Hurdus wanted to add a few more comments on the sentiments expressed by Pak Siwi. He was very much impressed with the overall performance of the SAR Project and added that the Project is in an exciting period. He pointed out that the USAID is now in the process of trying to get detailed information on the research management, facilities and station management, and the productive use of scientists. Also he added that the USAID is interested in assisting research directly in a number of commodities over the next 10-15 years, and very much interested in continuing relationship with the AARD.

Dr Syarifuddin stated that the preliminary training of tractor operators was already completed, and a staff has been sent to IRRI for laboratory training. With regard to the long-range plan for SARIF, he fully agreed to the continuation of research activities beyond the extension period of April, 1985.

Dr Antoine stressed the importance of adding cropping/farming systems including palawija crops and livestock in the Project. Dr Syarifuddin thought it is difficult to get qualified livestock staff locally and asked Dr Siwi for his suggestion. Dr Siwi suggested that the Project should be associated with other food crops, animal programs, etc., and these should fit into the farming system. Since the mandate

is only on food crops, it may not be possible to hire any staff on livestock and this should be identified on collaborative basis with the neighboring Department of Agriculture by establishing close contacts, he added.

### 3.6 Finance

Mr Srinivasan briefly presented the financial report for the first semester. Budget allocation of \$485,500 is included as commitment from Loan Funds for Technical Assistance, and this is not transferred to Grant Funds, as was reported. This has been duly corrected. Likewise, \$497,700 is available from Loan Funds for Training only. It was suggested by USAID to spend all Grant Funds before utilizing Loan Funds.

### 4. Status of Construction

USAID Engineers have reviewed the designs and drawings and passed on to TEAM-4 for their information.

Pasar Miring: There will be a problem of drainage at the construction site which must be corrected collaborating with other departments. Otherwise everything is all right.

Rambatan: USAID Engineers questioned the water supply and the completeness of the drawing of the whole station.

Dr Syarifuddin pointed out that there is a source of drinking water within 3 km. Since tube-wells have not proved successful in the area (Rambatan), a pipe line from this source 3 km away may be the best solution. Mr Irwan indicated that the jet-pump as per the drawings submitted may not be practical if the source of water supply (wells) dry periodically.

Mr Alan Hurdus mentioned that the FAR reimbursement from USAID is withheld for Pasar Miring, Sukarami IIA, Sitiung I for completing defects in the construction and other formalities.

At Pasar Miring, the doors of the screenhouses need to be fully protected with insulations, Mr Riordan observed. Dr Syarifuddin agreed on this point and assured to have the screenhouses fully protected.

Mr Riordan stressed the role of effective supervision of the contractors in all construction activities. Dr Syarifuddin admitted that the supervision has not been sufficient in most of the construction projects. Mr Suntana felt that it is better to appoint supervisors locally instead of deputing their staff, since they find it difficult to operate in three different places and coordination is their problem from Jakarta. Dr Syarifuddin asked TEAM-4 to find out the list of supervisors available in the area and he suggested to consult USAID (Mr Irwan/Mr Riordan) before selecting and appointment.

After considerable discussion on construction, Mr Cobb observed that it is essential to find out alternatives for completing both construction and procurement or set priorities and cut-off dates, since it will be impossible to extend the SAR Project beyond April 1986.

Dr Syarifuddin assured to take personal attention to improve the staff efficiency and to expedite all steps in tendering and construction.

It was agreed that the new Implements Schedule presented by Mr Suntana, still needs further study and possible revision in order to be as realistic as possible.

#### 5. Status of Procurement

Mr Sianturi reported the status of procurement, which is briefly summarized as follows:

First Order: Consisting mainly of field equipment, workshop equipment, electric generators and spare parts were all received and inventoried in Sukarami. Much of the equipment is already in use in the various experiment stations.

Second Order: Consisting of Laboratory and Seed processing equipment are expected to arrive sometime during September. Originally scheduled to arrive in Padang in late July, and the shipment is delayed due to transshipment from Singapore to Padang on a smaller vessel. However, Mr Sianturi is contacting Trans Century to expedite on this shipment.

Third Order: Consisting mainly of office equipment and furnishings, and equipment for communications/information services, greenhouses. Mr Sianturi informed that the commodity schedule has been established in a meeting held at the LITBANG office on September 10, 1984 (attended by: Mr Budiono, Mr Sianturi, and Mr Leon Muffett). It was decided to advertise in English and Bahasa Indonesia on October 13, 1984 (this date is still tentative which will be confirmed upon hearing from Trans Century, Washington, DC). Advertisement will be issued in the USA (thru USAID in the Commerce & Business Daily of the Commerce Dept., Washington, DC) and in Indonesia. Evaluation will be completed before the end of this year, and the shipment will be expected to arrive in April, 1985.

Dr Syarifuddin suggested to hold monthly meetings in Bogor/Sukarami to discuss problems and progress in construction development, and equipment procurement.

#### Communication

Dr Syarifuddin informed that the installation of the telephone system will most probably be done by the end of December, 1984, and the budget available is sufficient for meeting the expenses.

Replying to a query from Mr Traywick on the permits and licenses for the radio units, Dr Syarifuddin said that this needs to be checked with Mr Djaman.

Other Matters:

Mr Cobb agreed to the suggestion of utilizing some money left over in 'Contingency' for hiring short-term consultants. Mr Hurdus suggested to utilize this money for in-country training, conducting seminars, etc. Dr Siwi thought it is better to use some portion, if available, for the local-support on the international workshop-cum-monitoring tour on Upland Rice to be held early next year.

Seed Production: This is one of the important fields which needs to be strengthened. Dr Delouche suggested to improve the facilities for training, since there will be plenty of seed processing equipment and storage facilities in various research programs and additionally supplied under World Bank funds, and this will ultimately benefit the farmer on the transfer of technology.

School: Dr Rasidin pointed out the problems faced by the staff in sending their children to a good school, since the facilities in Sukarami is lacking considerably. Dr Syarifuddin will look into this matter.

Next Meeting

It was decided to hold the next semi-annual meeting in Taman Bogo sometime during later part of February, 1985, to coincide with the monitoring tour of 'Upland Rice'.

At the conclusion, Mr Cobb summarized on the following points for action:

- 1) Computer: USAID will investigate the possibility of procuring through in-country source. Upon receipt of the requisite letter from CRIFC, USAID will follow it up on this item.
- 2) Mini-Bus: USAID will try to get waiver for early procurement.
- 3) After discussion with the Secretary General, if there is anything that USAID could do to expedite clearances, USAID will be happy to assist in this regard.
- 4) Once it is decided by SARIF/CRIFC to use money from Loan Funds, USAID will be happy to work on it appropriately.
- 5) Construction: If it is essential to revise the targets and priorities for construction within the next few months, USAID will be happy to assist on this.

Finally, Mr Cobb was very happy to visit the Project for the first time and he was very much impressed with the excellent progress made in all aspects of the Project, and congratulated the group its achievements.

Dr Siwi was not sure whether Toyoto Hiace Minibus could be procured with the general permit of PP-99; however, he would like to have this checked.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.