

## **Conclusions of the Workshop**

- Considering the growing need for food to meet the demands of rising population, especially in developing countries, it is important that agrometeorological information is made available in a timely fashion to the users. Hence, it is concluded that every effort should be made to improve and make available good quality agrometeorological products in a timely fashion with the full involvement of the users.
- Recognizing that agrometeorological products must continue to be produced by members, the common problem of a lack of knowledge of users needs must be addressed.
- Noting the usefulness of this workshop in initiating the process to improve national agrometeorological products, it is suggested that another workshop be organized to evaluate the progress in the implementation of the workshop recommendations in two years time.
- Capitalizing on existing resources, especially on the latest technologies, the following recommendations of the Workshop should be adopted by countries as much as possible.

## **Recommendations of the Workshop**

The workshop recommends that:

- A common web server be created to share experiences in the preparation of agrometeorological products and also to facilitate exchange of new ideas. The server will be a location where all countries would routinely post their agrometeorological products;
- WMO and other relevant agencies help countries improve their agrometeorological services;
- Each country prepares products to best meet the needs of users, taking into consideration the availability of data, tools and methodology;
- A task force be created at the national level to assess the quality, relevant acquisition and dissemination of data;

- Although timely availability of good quality data for producing and disseminating agrometeorological products and strengthening agrometeorological networks in cropping areas are essential, non conventional sources of data, such as Numerical Weather Prediction Products (NWP) and Remote Sensing (RS) data must be considered;
- National Meteorological Services make a concerted effort to sensitize the policy makers and Governments on the economic benefits of their agrometeorological services and on the necessity of operating a core network of agrometeorological stations;
- In order to make efficient use of existing resources, partnerships with national and international stakeholders be established to share and exchange resources and technology to improve agrometeorological products;
- Each country identifies training needs for producers and users of agrometeorological products and actively seeks funds to provide the training, especially in developing countries like in the Caribbean region.