



Rome, 5 November 2015

### **Outcomes of the Sixth Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture relevant to the Convention on Biological Diversity**

Dear Mr. Dias,

I would like to, again, thank you for the warm and supportive message you conveyed to the Governing Body during the opening ceremony of its Sixth Session and for sending a representative to attend the Session on your behalf.

Following the successful conclusion of the Sixth Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, I am pleased to bring to your notice the number of outcomes which are of relevance to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Nagoya Protocol and Access and Benefit-sharing, the Conference of Parties (COP) and your Secretariat.

#### ***Relationship with the Convention on Biological Diversity***

As you are well aware, the relationship with the Convention is a standing item on the agenda of the Governing Body of the Treaty. By Resolution 7/2015, the Governing Body, inter alia, commended our Secretariats for the efforts we have made to cooperate and took note of the Roadmap we had developed and agreed between our two Secretariats. It consequently requested me to continue exploring with you, practical means and activities to further enhance this cooperation along the lines established in our Memorandum of Cooperation, the Joint Initiative, and Roadmap.

The Governing Body also noted the decisions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (COP 12), and the first meeting of the Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, that are of relevance to the Treaty.

In particular, the Governing Body welcomed the decision of COP 12 on the Financial Mechanism (Decision XII/30) to enhance programmatic synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions and, in this context, requested the Governing Body Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, to develop elements of advice for the Global Environment Facility concerning the funding of the objectives and priorities of the Treaty, consistent with the mandates of the Global Environment Facility. Consistent with COP Decision XII/30, I will transmit the elements of advice, as developed, through you to COP 13.

You would be pleased to note that, by the same Resolution, the Governing Body also welcomed the decision of COP 12 to hold a workshop to explore ways for Parties of the various biodiversity-related conventions to enhance synergies and improve efficiency among them. It therefore requested the Governing Body Bureau and I to facilitate the selection of the representatives to participate in this workshop and report on the outcomes to the Seventh Session of the Governing Body.

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Dr. Bráulio F. de Souza Dias  
Executive Secretary  
Secretariat of the Convention  
on Biological Diversity  
Montreal

### ***Cooperation with other international bodies and organizations***

By Resolution 10/2015, the Governing Body noted with appreciation the work of the biodiversity-related conventions to strengthen synergies among them, and stressed the importance of supporting the conventions to improve collaboration, communication and coordination at all levels. The Governing Body invited the members of the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions to continue their cooperation and coordination as a means to increase synergies in national implementation, in accordance with their respective mandates.

### ***The Vision and the Programme of Work on the Global Information System***

By Resolution 3/2015 the Governing Body adopted the *Vision* and the *Programme of Work* on the Global Information System on PGRFA (GLIS) in the context of Article 17 of the Treaty, which requires, inter alia, that in implementing the GLIS, the cooperation of the Clearing House Mechanism of the CBD will be sought. By the same Resolution, the Governing Body established a Scientific Advisory Committee, to which we hope your Secretariat will nominate a member. This is an area I would like to explore in particular, in continuation of our past decisions, and I have thus also attached the full text of this Resolution for your information and our further joint action.

### ***Implementation of Article 6: Sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture***

By Resolution 4/2015, the Governing Body, inter alia, requested me to “collaborate with other relevant initiatives, with regard to the Convention on Biological Diversity, on interaction between genetic resources, community and farmer led system activities and protected area systems”. It also reconvened the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of PGRFA, to which your Secretariat is already a member, and I will through this keep you informed of relevant developments in this area. This will, in particular, give us the opportunity to advance the joint work we had envisaged in the area of in-situ conservation and on-farm management on agrobiodiversity.

I have attached herewith, either the full text or the relevant excerpts of the respective Resolutions for your information and action, and for further transmission to your Conference of Parties as well as any subsidiary body of the COP, as appropriate.

I look forward to following up on this range of outcomes and other related issues. I would therefore be available, at your earliest convenience to discuss with you, and the relevant staff of the Secretariat, on how best to give full effect to the decisions of the COP and Resolutions of the Governing Body, especially in the context of our current Roadmap for cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Shakeel Bhatti  
Secretary  
International Treaty  
on Plant Genetic Resources  
for Food and Agriculture



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## RESOLUTION 7/2015

### RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

#### THE GOVERNING BODY,

**Recalling** Article 1.2 of the Treaty as well as Article 19.3 (g) and (l), which provides for the Governing Body to establish and maintain cooperation with, as well as take note of the relevant decisions of, the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the provisions of Article 20.5 that requires the Secretary to cooperate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

**Recalling** Resolution 5/2013 regarding cooperation with the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, its subsidiary bodies and Secretariat;

**Welcoming** the entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization (the Nagoya Protocol)

**Acknowledging** the need for continued capacity-building support to Parties, especially developing countries, for the mutually supportive implementation of the Treaty, the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol;

1. **Notes** the decisions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the first meeting of the Conference of Parties serving as the meeting of Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, that are of relevance to the Treaty;
2. **Requests** the Secretariat to continue monitoring and participating in the relevant processes related to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol and in order to promote practical, harmonious and appropriate interfaces among them, both nationally and internationally;
3. **Calls on** Contracting Parties, in the review and updating of their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, and the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, to ensure that their commitments under the Treaty are fully reflected, especially through enhanced involvement of all relevant stakeholders;
4. **Recalling** Resolution 5/2013, **welcomes** the decision of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on the Financial Mechanism (decision XII/30) to enhance programmatic synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions and, in this context, requests the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, to develop elements of advice for the Global Environment Facility concerning the funding of the objectives and priorities the Treaty, consistent with the mandates of the Global Environment Facility, and **requests** the Secretary to transmit the elements of advice, as developed, to the thirteenth meeting of Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, consistent with COP decision XII/30, so that they may be referred to the Global Environment Facility, and **further requests** the Secretary to include the elaboration of elements of advice to the Financial Mechanism of the Convention in the Agenda of future Sessions of the Governing Body, as appropriate;

5. **Welcomes** the decision of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to hold a workshop to explore ways for Parties of the various biodiversity-related conventions to enhance synergies and improve efficiency among them, without prejudice to the specific objectives and recognizing the respective mandates and subject to the availability of resources of these conventions, with a view to enhancing their implementation at all levels, and **requests** the Secretary and the Bureau to facilitate the selection of the representatives to participate in this workshop and report on the outcomes to the Seventh Session of the Governing Body;

6. **Commends** the Secretariat for its efforts to cooperate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and, taking note of the Roadmap developed in the context of the Joint Initiative and the Memorandum of Cooperation entered into between the Secretary and the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, **requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue exploring with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, practical means and activities to further enhance to this cooperation along the lines established in the Memorandum of Cooperation, the Joint Initiative, and Roadmap between the two Secretariats, and to report to the Governing Body;

7. **Welcomes** the efforts of the Secretariats of the Treaty and the Convention on Biological Diversity in collaboration with the African Union Commission, Bioversity International and ABS Capacity Development Initiative and other partners to bring together stakeholders and experts involved in the implementation of the Treaty, the Convention, and the Nagoya Protocol, and **requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue facilitating such interaction on the mutual supportiveness, harmonious and appropriate implementation of the instruments, and report to the Governing Body the outcomes of such activities;

8. **Draws the attention** of Contracting Parties to the ongoing work regarding Article 10 of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing and **urges** the Secretariat to consider engaging in it;

9. **Requests** the Secretary to continue reporting on the cooperation with the Convention at each Session of the Governing Body.



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## RESOLUTION 10/2015

### COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

#### THE GOVERNING BODY:

**Cognizant** of the importance of developing and maintaining cooperation with the relevant international organizations, institutions and partners, whose work relate to the Treaty, in order to advance the Treaty's objectives;

**Welcoming** the ongoing activities and initiatives undertaken by the Treaty Secretariat during this biennium, aimed at enhancing partnerships and collaborations with relevant international organizations;

**Noting** the continued significant support to the objectives of the Treaty by the International Agricultural Research Centers (IARCs) of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR);

**Noting** the need to continue providing developing country Contracting Parties with assistance in the implementation of the Treaty and its Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing in particular, and **further noting** the progress made during this biennium in the implementation of the Joint Capacity Building Programme;

**Recalling** the need to strengthen cooperation with other international organizations in order to enhance the implementation of the Funding Strategy and, especially, its Benefit-sharing Fund;

**Noting**, with appreciation, the work of the biodiversity-related conventions to strengthen synergies among them, and further **stressing** the importance of supporting the biodiversity-related conventions to improve collaboration, communication and coordination at all levels;

**Further taking note** of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the sustainable development goals, in particular targets 2.5 and 15.6 related to the conservation, access and benefit-sharing of genetic resources;

1. **Reaffirms** the need to continue the efforts necessary to ensure that the Treaty's objectives and role in the conservation and sustainable utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture are recognized and supported by relevant international institutions, organizations and processes;
2. **Invites** Contracting Parties to take initiatives to strengthen the harmonious and mutually supportive implementation of the Treaty and other relevant international instruments and processes;
3. **Requests** the Secretary to facilitate such initiatives upon request and depending on available resources;

[...]

11. **Requests** the Secretary to continue the collaboration with other Conventions and relevant international organizations for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets that interface with the Treaty's provisions;
12. **Invites** the members of the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions to continue their cooperation and coordination as a means to increase synergies in national implementation, in accordance with their respective mandates and subject to availability of financial resources, and **requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue to participate in and actively contribute to the relevant activities of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions and the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, where relevant;
13. **Urges** Contracting Parties to take measures to enhance synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions to promote policy coherence, improve efficiency and enhance coordination and cooperation at all levels and **invites** international organizations and donors to provide financial resources to support efforts that encourage synergies in policy development and the fulfilment of obligations under the biodiversity-related conventions;
14. **Notes** the results of the United Nations Environment Programme's project on improving the effectiveness of and cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions and exploring opportunities for further synergies;
15. **Requests** the Secretary to continue participating in the Information and Knowledge Management Initiative of UNEP (InforMEA) and in the InforMEA Portal and to follow the work of the expert meeting on interoperability between reporting systems for biodiversity data;
16. **[...]**



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## RESOLUTION 3/2015

### THE VISION AND THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON THE GLOBAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

#### THE GOVERNING BODY,

**Recalling** its previous decisions on the Global Information System and particularly Resolution 10/2013,

**Further recalling** the interlinkages between the Global Information System of Article 17 and the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing as referred to in Article 13.2.a);

**Mindful of** the role of the International Treaty and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as caretakers of agro-biodiversity, including information related to PGRFA;

**Acknowledging** the need to facilitate the documentation and dissemination of PGRFA available in the Multilateral System and its associated information to facilitate research, plant breeding and training subject to applicable law;

**Thanking** the Government of Germany for the financial support provided for COGIS and the Government of Spain for their support to the PGRFA analysis tools during the 2014-2015 biennium;

1. **Adopts** the *Vision* and the *Programme of Work* contained in Annexes 1 and 2 respectively;
2. **Decides** to establish the Scientific Advisory Committee on the Global Information System of Article 17 with the terms of references contained in Annex 3. Subject to the availability of financial resources, the Committee will meet at least twice during the 2016-2017 biennium.
3. **Requests** the Secretary to implement the programme of work based on the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee, and **further requests** the Secretary to submit to the Governing Body a progress report at each regular session and a proposal for review of the programme of work when appropriate, based on the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee;
4. **Invites** Contracting Parties, other governments and stakeholders to provide the necessary resources to implement a set of pilot activities of the Programme of Work;
5. **Notes that** the Secretariat participates in the Joint Facilitation Unit of the DivSeek initiative, with the view to enabling synergies with the Global Information System in full respect of the provisions of the Treaty, and **requests** the Secretary to continue doing it;

6. ***Further requests*** the Secretary to invite DivSeek stakeholders to report on the implications for the objectives of the Treaty of the technologies underlying the DivSeek initiative and to compile a synthesis report on this for consideration by the Governing Body at its Seventh Session;
7. ***Requests*** the Secretary and the Contracting Parties to continue promoting initiatives to support national and regional programmes in the development and transfer of information technologies for, and data analysis of, PGRFA such as CAPFITOGEN and the Platform for Co-development and Transfer of Technologies in support of the programme of work as detailed in Annex 2.
8. ***Encourages*** the Secretary and the Contracting Parties to promote synergies and connections among existing information systems and national and regional information networks, as well as with the operations of the Multilateral System and the projects funded by the Benefit-sharing Fund for the documentation of PGRFA, as long as they operate in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty;
9. ***Requests*** the Secretary to design a monitoring and assessment mechanism on the usefulness and effectiveness of the Global Information System according to Article 17.1, subject to availability of resources, based on the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee and present a draft to the next Session of the Governing Body;
10. ***Requests*** the Secretary to report on the above to the next Session of the Governing Body



*Annex 1***Vision for the Global Information System on PGRFA**

***The Global Information System for PGRFA integrates and augments existing systems to create the global entry point to information and knowledge for strengthening the capacity for PGRFA conservation, management and utilization.***

The development of a truly effective Global Information System as foreseen in the International Treaty involves, *inter alia*: strengthening existing systems and, where gaps remain, establishing new systems and initiatives; promoting inter-connectivity among systems; and providing overarching mechanisms to ensure ready access to the information and services provided. This translates into the following objectives:

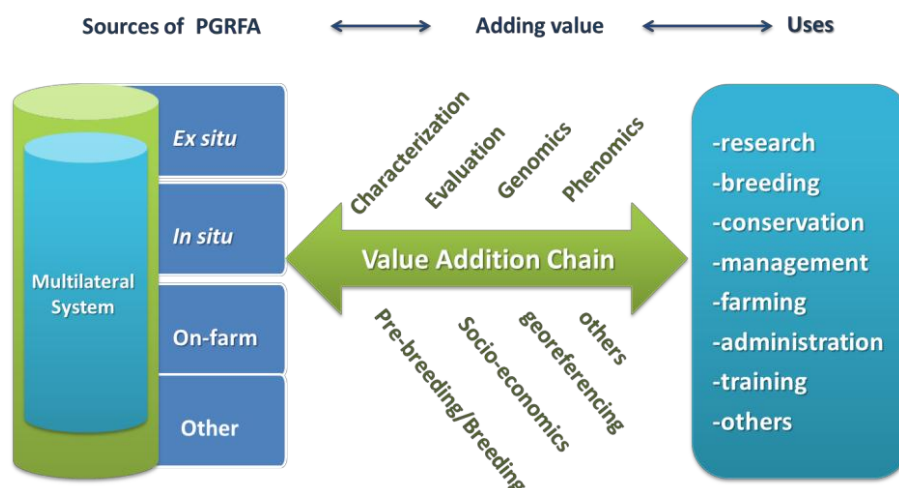
- 1-To create a web-based platform with use-oriented entry points to PGRFA information;
- 2-To provide a comprehensive overview and facilitate access to sources of PGRFA and associated information;
- 3-To promote and facilitate interoperability among existing systems by providing clear principles, technical standards and appropriate tools to support their operations in accordance to the principles and rules of the Treaty;
- 4-To promote transparency on the rights and obligations of users for accessing, sharing and using PGRFA associated information and to establish ways to exercise those rights and obligations within the Global Information System;
- 5-To create and enhance opportunities for communication and international and multidisciplinary collaboration to increase knowledge about and add value to PGRFA;
- 6-To provide capacity development and technology transfer opportunities for the conservation, management and use of PGRFA and associated information and knowledge paying special attention to the needs of developing countries;
- 7-To create a mechanism to assess progress and monitor effectiveness of the Global Information System.

## Annex 2

**Programme of Work on the Global Information System (2016-2022)**

The Programme of Work will cover an initial period of six years. It will be implemented through a phased approach and funded through extra budgetary contributions.

The value chain of PGRFA, illustrating the components of and linkages between the three elements of the value chain, namely the sources of PGRFA, adding value, and using PGRFA.

**1-To create a web-based platform with use-oriented entry points to PGRFA information**

- To set up the technical infrastructure needed for the development of the Platform;
- To engage with FAO, the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol and other organizations to build on the experience accumulated on the development of global portals;
- To define use case scenarios for target groups and set up mechanisms to get feedback from them;
- To create a prototype of the global portal able to receive feedback from the users on the SMTA material;

**2-To provide a comprehensive overview and facilitate access to sources of PGRFA and associated information**

- To create an index of sources of information, knowledge and other materials;
- To strengthen the capacity of genebanks and other providers to document their holdings using traditional and modern methods and to facilitate access to that information and to the genetic resources in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty;
- To enable recipients of PGRFA to make available to the MLS all non-confidential information according to applicable law that results from their research and development carried out on the material received, in compliance with their obligation under SMTA Art 6.9;
- To allow quick access to information on the material available in the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing (MLS) at sample level;
- To strengthen capacity to develop national and regional inventories and information systems and networks.

**3-To promote and facilitate interoperability among existing systems by providing clear principles, technical standards and appropriate tools to support their operations in accordance to the principles and rules of the Treaty;**

- a. To develop a common standard for Permanent Unique Identifiers applied to PGRFA and an operational mechanism to promote the adoption of DOIs;
- b. To develop further training and capacity development material, including e-learning material, in collaboration with other relevant organizations;
- c. To recommend common standards for data and metadata and develop further standards (e.g. for phenotypic data) based on existing experiences in other sectors;
- d. To establish functional connections with other initiatives relevant for the adoption of open data and standards to PGRFA;
- e. To develop the technical standards required for interoperability between different PGRFA information management systems;

**4-To promote transparency on the rights and obligations of users for accessing, sharing and using PGRFA associated information and to establish ways to exercise those rights and obligations within the Global Information System;**

- a. To analyse the institutional, organizational, policy and legal factors for PGRFA information access, sharing and use in the context of the Treaty's provisions, in particular Articles 12 and 13;
- b. To understand the applicability and impacts of models developed in other parts of the Treaty, such as the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit Sharing, and initiatives such as DivSeek.

**5-To create and enhance opportunities for communication and international and multidisciplinary collaboration to increase knowledge about and add value to PGRFA**

- a. To identify and create tools, mechanisms and opportunities for communication and collaboration with partners and users of the system (media, mailing lists, etc);
- b. To conduct focused surveys with a wide range of users and validation methods;
- c. To strengthen the linkages among stakeholders to concentrate research on high-priority germplasm jointly identified by them;

**6-To provide capacity development and technology transfer opportunities for the conservation, management and use of PGRFA and associated information and knowledge paying special attention to the needs of developing countries**

- a. To convey and support regional meetings and scientific conferences related to new technologies and themes;
- b. To provide access to training materials for capacity development;
- c. To support the training of staff in areas such as taxonomy, information management and bioinformatics in collaboration with relevant partners;
- d. To design mechanisms to promote training opportunities across institutions (training of trainers, match-making);
- e. To provide training for the genebank managers of the future;
- f. To facilitate transfer of relevant technologies to developing countries;
- g. To raise awareness among stakeholders in the Global Information System on traditional knowledge relevant to PGRFA in accordance with the Treaty's provisions and in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity

**7. To create a mechanism to assess progress and monitor effectiveness of the Global Information System**

- a. To implement a feedback system for the portal in order to allow assessments of the usefulness and effectiveness of the Global Information System;
- b. To promote periodic consultations among Contracting Parties, and stakeholders, users and providers, about the usefulness and effectiveness of the Global Information System.

*Annex 3***Terms of Reference for the Scientific Advisory Committee on Article 17**Objectives

The Governing Body provides guidance on the development and strengthening of the Global Information System, to facilitate the exchange of information, based on existing information systems, on scientific, technical and environmental matters related to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA).

The Scientific Advisory Committee (Committee) shall advise the Secretary on:

- general recommendations on the development and deployment of the Global Information System and its components as adopted by the Governing Body;
- the discovery of new areas of work with potential impact on the System;
- the selection of pilot activities for the Global Information System and, upon request of the Secretary, other initiatives and actions to sustain the operation of the Global Information System, and the further update of the Programme of Work.

In particular, the Committee shall provide scientific advice to the Secretary on the following items:

1. the effectiveness and efficiency of the Global Information System as a mechanism to promote advice regarding scientific, technical and environmental cooperation on PGRFA matters;
2. the exchange of PGRFA-related information and the transfer of publicly available expertise, technology and scientific cooperation;
3. scientific and technical components of the Global Information Systems and its Programme of Work as recommended by the Governing Body;
4. cooperation with other relevant international and regional scientific and technical cooperation and technology transfer initiatives, including the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing House Mechanism of the Nagoya Protocol;
5. means to facilitate the implementation of the Global Information System at the national level and the establishment of a Stakeholder Platform;
6. scientific, technical and environmental cooperation and benefits of all the Treaty activities, including the Multilateral System and Access and Benefit-sharing and the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use

Subject to the availability of financial resources, the Committee will hold two meetings per biennium.

Composition

The Committee is composed of:

- up to 2 scientific experts from each Region, nominated by the Vice-chairpersons of the Governing Body of each respective Region;
- 10 additional scientific and technical experts appointed by the Secretary including experts suggested by the regions and relevant stakeholders, taking into account the required range of technical expertise and regional balance as appropriate.

The members shall be selected for their scientific expertise and understanding of the Global Information System and the International Treaty, taking into account the need for specialized and in-depth expertise including: bioinformatics and molecular genetics; the 'omics', in particular genomics, phenomics and proteomics; management of environmental and geo-spatial data about plant genetic resources; scientific,

taxonomy, crop wild relatives and genebank management and *ex situ*, *in situ* and on-farm conservation of PGRFA, technical cooperation; capacity-building; system integration, information exchange and data sharing; fair and equitable benefit sharing and legal expertise in the relevant international law and regulations; partnerships with other organizations, institutions and initiatives.

The Committee shall elect its Co-chairpersons from among the experts.

The Secretariat of the International Treaty will facilitate the work of the Committee and report to the Governing Body.

The mandate and the composition of the Committee may be renewed by the Governing Body at its Seventh Session.



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## RESOLUTION 4/2015

### IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 6, SUSTAINABLE USE OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

#### THE GOVERNING BODY,

**Recognizing** the pivotal role of sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) in addressing global challenges, including food security, biodiversity loss, climate change adaptation and the fight against poverty, especially for smallholder farmers;

**Recalling** Resolution 7/2013 and taking note of the Report of the second meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of PGRFA (ACSU);

**Emphasizing** the key role of sustainable use of PGRFA and the link between Farmers' Rights under Article 9 and the provisions on conservation and sustainable use under Articles 5 and 6 of the Treaty;

**Taking into account** that the ACSU recommended to the Secretary to further structure and update the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PoW-SU) with additional areas for supporting initiatives by Contracting Parties and other stakeholders, and to create synergies within the Programme of Work and between the Programme of Work and other areas of work of the Treaty:

1. **Endorses** the revised Programme of Work as contained in *Annex 1* to this Resolution and requests Contracting Parties and stakeholders to continue reporting on its implementation and acknowledges the contribution of these initiatives to the sustainable use of PGRFA;
2. **Requests** all Contracting Parties to promote, as appropriate, the access of all farmers including smallholder farmers, farmers organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities to PGRFA in the Multilateral System and the broadening of the genetic base of crops in use;
3. **Requests** the Secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau of the Seventh Session to consider integration of the sustainable use objectives, tools and initiatives into the next round of the funding cycle of the Benefit-Sharing Fund, in particular for the wider use of diversity of varieties and species in on-farm management, and also requests it to further explore options on how the Benefit-Sharing Fund could support the implementation of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use, in particular to address farmers' needs;
- 4 **Requests** the Secretary, in collaboration with other stakeholders and subject to the availability of financial resources, to:
  - a. Invite further inputs from Contracting Parties, other governments, farmers' organizations, relevant stakeholders and experts to collect additional and prospective tools for the Toolbox and publish it in all the working languages of FAO;

- b. cooperate with all relevant entities within FAO and institutions such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), as well as the private sector and NGOs, under the framework of the Treaty, for the effective implementation of activities in support of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of PGRFA;
  - c. facilitate and monitor the activities carried out by Contracting Parties, stakeholders and International Organizations in support of that Programme of Work;
  - d. continue to invite and collect submissions from Contracting Parties, other governments relevant institutions and organizations, and stakeholders on how to promote and improve measures for the sustainable use of PGRFA;
  - e. convene regional meetings on advanced characterization and sustainable use of PGRFA, including the assessment of needs of local farmers and other relevant local stakeholders and identification of possible means to address those needs also through participatory approaches in the context of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use;
  - f. collaborate with other relevant initiatives, with regard to the Convention on Biological Diversity, on interaction between genetic resources, community and farmer led system activities and protected area systems;
  - g. further develop collaboration with CGIAR Consortium, in particular Bioversity International, and other relevant organizations, on training and capacity building on sustainable use of PGRFA, including through joint resource mobilization;
5. **Decides** to reconvene the *ACSU*, subject to the availability of financial resources, with the Terms of Reference contained in *Appendix 1* to this Resolution.



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*APPENDIX 1*

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**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE *AD HOC* TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE USE OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

1. The *Ad hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (hereafter the Committee) will provide advice to the Secretary on:
  - a. implementation of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and Supporting Initiatives;
  - b. cooperation with other international processes and institutions in the field of sustainable use of PGRFA;
  - c. identification of additional activities and synergies within the Programme of Work and between the Programme of Work and other areas of work of the Treaty;
  - d. elaboration of the current gaps in conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA through the support of Contracting Parties and donors;
2. The Committee will comprise up to two members for each Region and up to ten technical experts designated by the Bureau in consultation with the regions and all relevant stakeholders, in particular Farmers' organizations, taking into account the required range of technical expertise, regional and gender balance. Two Co-Chairs from Contracting Parties of the Treaty will form part of the Committee, one from a developing country and one from a developed country. The Co-Chairs will be elected by the members of the Committee designated by the Regions.
3. The Secretary will keep a list of experts for further reference. It will be made available to Contracting Parties with a view to possibly develop a pool of experts on sustainable use.
4. The Committee will hold up to two meetings, subject to the availability of financial resources.
5. The Committee will prepare reports at the end of its meetings, which will be made available as soon as possible for written comments by Contracting Parties and relevant Stakeholders to be submitted to the Secretary who will compile them for information for the Seventh Session of the Governing Body.
6. The Secretary will report on the results of the work of the Committee to the Governing Body at its Seventh Session.

## *ANNEX 1*

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### ***THE VISION, MISSION AND GOALS OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON SUSTAINABLE USE OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AND SUPPORTING INITIATIVES***

*(as adopted by the Resolution 7/2013)*

#### **VISION**

Plant genetic resources for food and agriculture are used sustainably in farming systems in accordance with Article 6, to enable more inclusive, sustainable and efficient agricultural and food systems at local, national and international levels.

#### **MISSION**

To enhance the sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture through effective measures that translate Article 6 of the Treaty into country-level impact.

#### **GOALS**

##### **Monitoring, implementing and ensuring technical support**

**Goal 1:** To provide support to Contracting Parties and stakeholders to implement the provisions of Articles 5, 6 and 9 of the Treaty that are relevant to the sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, based on national priorities and needs.

**Goal 2:** To provide policy direction and guidance by monitoring the implementation of the Treaty in relation to sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

**Goal 3:** To continue monitoring the technical support and expertise provided by FAO in the area of sustainable use, as foreseen in Article 6 of the Treaty.

##### **Cooperating and improving partnerships**

**Goal 4:** To strengthen collaboration and partnerships among stakeholders participating in projects and programmes relevant to the sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, taking into account the Convention on Biological Diversity's Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

**Goal 5:** To implement the objectives of non-monetary benefit-sharing, and the Priority Activities of the *Second Global Plan of Action*, regarding the sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

**Table 1: Components and expected results (2017/2019) of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and Supporting Initiatives**

*(Subject to the availability of resources)*

<b>Programmes</b>	<b>Expected Results GB 7th (2017)</b>	<b>Expected Results GB 8th (2019)</b>	<b>Possible Implementing Partners</b>
<b><i>Part A: agreed by the Governing Body</i></b>			
1. Implementing the sustainable use of PGRFA, as per Article 6 of the Treaty	a. Contracting Parties, stakeholders and international organizations implement and report on activities, projects and programmes for the achievement of sustainable use of PGRFA. The Secretariat of the Treaty monitors technical and policy developments. It will report back to the Governing Body.	b. Contracting Parties, stakeholders and international organizations implement and report on activities, projects and programs for the achievement of sustainable use of PGRFA. The Secretariat of the Treaty monitors technical and policy developments, which are referred to the Governing Body for guidance.	Contracting Parties, FAO, CGIAR, CGRFA, GFAR, CBD
2. Toolbox for Sustainable Use of PGRFA	a. Information collected on additional elements for the expansion of the Toolbox  b. Publication of the Toolbox and a first design of an online portal/webpage	c. An on-line webpage/portal with commenting possibilities will be established to collect and share experiences on the implementation of the Toolbox at national level	Contracting Parties, FAO, CGRFA, CGIAR, GFAR, CBD, NGOs, private sector and farmers' organizations
<b><i>Part B: Supporting Initiatives undertaken by Contracting Parties and other stakeholders voluntarily</i></b>			
3. Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies within the context of non-monetary benefit-sharing	a. Convening of annual meetings of the Platform  b. Preparation of a study on innovation systems and technology cycles for the sustainable use of PGRFA  c. Development of pilot technology packets for developing countries (selected crops)	f. Convening of annual meetings of the Platform  g. Further structuring and delivery of technology packets for different innovation systems  h. Implementation of pilot partnerships for pre-breeding	Working and advisory partners of the Platform; the Integrated Breeding Platform

	<p>d. Development of an online platform to facilitate the documentation and transfer of the packets in connection with the Global Information System</p> <p>e. Definition of an Action Plan for partnerships between the public and private sector in pre-breeding (selected crops)</p>	i. Strengthening the linkages between the use of varieties and species on-farm and information tools for plant breeding	
4. Training and capacity building on Farmers' Rights <sup>1</sup> and sustainable use	a. Implementation of relevant activities in the Resolution on Article 9 Farmers' Rights as adopted at the 6 <sup>th</sup> session of the Governing Body	b. Implementation of relevant activities in Resolution on Article 9 Farmers' Rights as adopted at the 7 <sup>th</sup> session of the Governing Body	Contracting Parties, FAO, GFAR, CBD, CGIAR, NGOs and farmers' organizations, private sector
5. Raising awareness of the actual and potential value of crop wild relatives, landraces and underutilized species of local and regional importance for food security and sustainable development	a. Joint research on Aichi Targets related to sustainability in agriculture and the linkages between in situ conservation /on-farm management and community- based initiatives and programmes for the sustainable use of crop wild relatives, landraces and underutilized species	b. Active outreach through workshops, publications and other appropriate means on sustainability in agriculture and the linkages between in situ conservation /on-farm management and community-based initiatives and programmes for the sustainable use of crop wild relatives, landraces and underutilized species	Contracting Parties, FAO, GFAR, CBD, CGIAR, NGOs and farmers' organizations, private sector

<sup>1</sup> \*In this Table, "Farmers' Rights" refers to Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the Treaty.