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COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission), at its Sixteenth Regular Session,¹ invited the FAO Director-General to bring the draft resolution *Reaffirming the World's Commitment to the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*² to the attention of the Fortieth FAO Conference, which endorsed it as Resolution 3/2017.³

2. The Commission, at its Sixteenth Regular Session,⁴ requested FAO to continue supporting countries in their efforts to implement the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources⁵ (Global Plan of Action) in order to contribute to global food security and sustainable rural development.

3. This document provides a report on FAO activities since the Commission's Sixteenth Regular Session. The activities are grouped according to their relevance to the four strategic priority areas of the Global Plan of Action. More in-depth information is provided in the document *Detailed FAO progress report on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*.⁶

II. THE SECOND REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

4. *The Second Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*⁷ (Second Report) was launched in January 2016 at a ceremony held at FAO headquarters. Since its launch, FAO has continued to disseminate the report widely, including its in-brief⁸ and brochure⁹ versions, which are available in all official languages of the United Nations. With the support of the Chinese Government, a Chinese version of the Second Report was prepared and distributed. Four scientific articles have been published based on analyses of the data provided by country questionnaires for preparation of the Second Report.

III. REPORTING AND AWARENESS-RAISING ON THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

5. FAO continued to distribute printed versions of the Global Plan of Action and related products and guidelines. Translations of the Global Plan of Action into Hindi and Vietnamese were finalized, bringing the total number of language versions to 22.¹⁰ The Chinese Government finalized translations of FAO guidelines on *Molecular genetic characterization of animal genetic resources* and *In vivo conservation of animal genetic resources*.

IV. FAO SUPPORT TO THE STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREAS OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

6. FAO continued to assist countries in the implementation of all strategic priority areas of the Global Plan of Action, by providing institutional and technical support, facilitating research and building capacity. This section provides some examples of FAO's activities in the four strategic priority areas and some cross-cutting areas.

¹ CGRFA-16/17/Report/Rev.1, paragraph 50.

² C 2017/25, Appendix B.

³ C 2017/REP, paragraph 54.

⁴ CGRFA-16/17/Report/Rev.1, paragraph 45.

⁵ [ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/010/a1404e/a1404e00.pdf](http://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/010/a1404e/a1404e00.pdf)

⁶ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-10/18/Inf.2.

⁷ <http://www.fao.org/publications/sowangr/en>

⁸ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5077a.pdf>, <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5077c.pdf>, <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5077e.pdf>,

<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5077f.pdf>, <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5077r.pdf>, <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5077s.pdf>,

⁹ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5086a.pdf>, <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5086c.pdf>, <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5086e.pdf>,

<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5086f.pdf>, <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5086r.pdf>, <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5086s.pdf>

¹⁰ Arabic, Chinese, Czech, Danish, English, French, German, Greek, Hindi, Hungarian, Indonesian, Korean, Nepalese, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai, Vietnamese.

Strategic Priority Area 1. Characterization, inventory and monitoring of trends and risks

7. With the FAO Regular Programme budget and extra-budgetary support from the Government of Germany, the Global Focal Point has continued to maintain and further develop and update the Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS).¹¹ The Commission, at its Sixteenth Regular Session,¹² stressed the importance DAD-IS as the international clearing-house mechanism for animal genetic resources and welcomed the development of its updated version. DAD-IS is recognized by the United Nations Statistical Commission as the source of information on animal genetic resources for calculation of Indicators 2.5.1 and 2.5.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals.¹³

8. The new version of DAD-IS was launched at a ceremony held at FAO headquarters in November 2017, which was followed by a training workshop attended by 68 National Coordinators for the Management of Animal Genetic Resources (National Coordinators) and government statisticians from 46 countries. More detailed information on the development of DAD-IS is presented in documents *Report on the status of the development of the Domestic Animal Diversity Information System*¹⁴ and *Detailed analysis of the Domestic Animal Diversity Information System with focus on population data*.¹⁵

9. In 2009, the Commission requested FAO to make status and trends reports on animal genetic resources available to the Commission at each of its regular sessions.¹⁶ In response, FAO has prepared for each subsequent session a report providing this information. The document, *Status and trends of animal genetic resources – 2018*,¹⁷ has been prepared for review by the Working Group. The status report is based on information in DAD-IS provided by National Coordinators. Currently, 179 countries have nominated a National Coordinator.

10. Since 2016, the proportions of avian and mammalian national breed populations for which population data are available have improved slightly, from 57 to 58 percent, and from 61 to 62 percent, respectively. The new version of DAD-IS has allowed for the first time the classification of risk status according to the system described in the guidelines on *In vivo conservation of animal genetic resources*,¹⁸ which was approved with the endorsement of the guidelines by the Commission at its Fourteenth Regular Session.^{19,20} Among the 8 803 breeds reported in DAD-IS, 24 percent are currently classified as being at risk; 10 percent are classified as not at risk; 59 percent have unknown risk status and 7 percent are reported to be extinct.²¹

11. FAO continued work through its Technical Cooperation Projects and with various partners to support countries in the characterization, inventory and monitoring of animal genetic resources, in the standardization of methods to undertake these tasks, and in the dissemination of results and related information. The FAO/International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Joint Division on Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture (AGE) provided capacity building through expert meetings, training courses and individual fellowships. At its Thirteenth Regular Session,²² the Commission requested FAO, in collaboration with the IAEA, to continue their joint efforts to establish a genetic resources database, with open access, to support national animal genetic resources programmes. AGE developed a database application for the management of data from molecular characterization studies and trained four countries in the utilization of the database.

¹¹ <http://www.fao.org/dad-is>

¹² CGRFA-16/17/Report/Rev.1, paragraph 46.

¹³ <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata>

¹⁴ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-10/18/3.

¹⁵ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-10/18/Inf.6.

¹⁶ CGRFA-12/09/Report, paragraph 39.

¹⁷ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-10/18/Inf.3.

¹⁸ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3327e/i3327e00.htm>

¹⁹ CGRFA-14/13/Report, paragraph 60.

²⁰ CGRFA-14/13/12, paragraph 12.

²¹ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-10/18/Inf.3.

²² CGRFA-13/11/Report, paragraph 76.

Strategic Priority Area 2. Sustainable use and development

12. In response to the need for technical assistance to ensure the better use and development of animal genetic resources, FAO continued to provide assistance in these fields, both directly and through cooperation with other organizations. Particular topics receiving emphasis in FAO's technical support and capacity building included adaptation and mitigation of climate change, animal identification, community-based breeding programmes, application of biotechnologies, agroecology and development of livestock market chains for smallholders.

13. Forty countries received support through Technical Cooperation Projects (TCP), administered by FAO and AGE. The projects address various issues of priority to each country, including livestock development, animal identification and traceability, genetic improvement and application of reproductive technologies.

14. FAO continued its work in support of small-scale livestock keepers. Specifically, with the extra-budgetary support received from the Government of Germany, FAO continued its operation of the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub.²³ The objectives of the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub are to facilitate communication among pastoralist livestock keepers, to empower them by improving their representation in policy-making processes and to gather and share information on factors influencing their livelihoods. The participation of pastoralists is organized through seven regional networks to provide easy dialogue through shared languages and through thematic working groups.

Draft guidelines on developing sustainable value chains for small-scale livestock producers

15. At its Twelfth Regular Session,²⁴ the Commission requested FAO to continue updating and further developing other technical guidelines on the management of animal genetic resources as important support for countries in their implementation of the Global Plan of Action.

16. Locally adapted breeds are mostly kept by small-scale livestock producers who rely on them to produce food as well as to provide a wide diversity of services. These producers face, however, many challenges, including growing environmental constraints, poor access to markets and related services, and limited capacities, which may hamper their productivity and competitiveness vis-à-vis their larger counterparts. Strategic Priority 6 of the Global Plan of Action therefore calls for countries to “support indigenous and local production systems and associated knowledge systems of importance to the maintenance and sustainable use of animal genetic resources” and includes an action on market development and value addition to primary products.

17. The preparation of the draft guidelines on sustainable value chains for small-scale livestock producers has involved a diversity of contributors. Colleagues from different FAO units and offices as well as external international experts with various institutional and geographical backgrounds have participated in two meetings. The first meeting was held in Spain in March 2016, at which the outline of the document was discussed. The second meeting was held in Morocco in May 2017, at which the first draft was discussed and validated. Experts have also contributed to the document through case studies. Lessons learned from FAO and non-FAO projects (e.g. in Uganda, Turkey or Viet Nam) were also incorporated into the document.

18. The development of sustainable value chains can assist in addressing the challenges faced by small-scale livestock producers. The specific characteristics of small-scale livestock production systems (i.e. multi-functionality, input and output provision, etc.) underline the need to analyse value chains in a holistic manner, considering not only the supply chain itself but also its broad environment, its dynamics and its connections to other systems. The document *Draft guidelines on developing sustainable value chains for small-scale livestock producers*,²⁵ which is available for review by the Working Group, represents a practical tool, providing guidance in development-thinking and

²³ <http://www.fao.org/pastoralist-knowledge-hub/en>

²⁴ CGRFA-12/09/Report, paragraph 41.

²⁵ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-10/18/ Inf.4.

intervention design, considering livestock value chains and targeting particularly small-scale livestock producers.

19. The guidelines suggest that value chain development may be viewed as a dynamic process with six different steps: (1) preliminary assessment; (2) value chain selection; (3) value chain analysis; (4) vision and development strategy; (5) design and implementation; and (6) monitoring, evaluation and scaling up. This market-based approach fully considers the interaction between its components and the physical, social and economic enabling environment, and integrates the multi-faceted concepts of value-addition and sustainability.

Contributions of livestock species and breeds to the provision of ecosystem services

20. The Commission, at its Sixteenth Regular Session,²⁶ requested FAO and invited countries to continue raising awareness of the important roles of livestock producers and of livestock species and breeds in the provision of ecosystem services. During the 2016–17 biennium, work on ecosystem services was embedded within FAO's Strategic Objective 2: "Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner", particularly within the Major Area of Work on Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity (MAW-ESB). The MAW-ESB and the Global Focal Point prepared the brochure: "The contributions of livestock species and breeds to ecosystem services".²⁷

21. The Commission invited FAO to reflect the role of livestock species and breeds in the supply of ecosystem services in *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*. The various roles of livestock species and breeds in the supply of ecosystem services are discussed throughout the report, in particular in Chapter 2: "The roles and importance of biodiversity for food and agriculture".

22. The Commission requested FAO and countries to improve the mapping of species and breed distributions, where possible, and the description of phenotypic measures and biological functions, particularly in grassland-based production systems, in order to better target interventions for livestock producers.²⁸ The new version of DAD-IS contains many data fields that allow comprehensive descriptions of breeds and their production systems, including the ecosystems services provided by the breeds. The user-friendly data entry system will facilitate the provision of information related to ecosystem services to DAD-IS and thus presumably increase their availability for planning of interventions supporting the maintenance of these services.

23. The Commission requested FAO to review methods for identification and valuation of the ecosystem services provided by livestock breeds for consideration by the Working Group at its next session.²⁹ The document "*Review of methods for identification and valuation of the ecosystem services provided by livestock breeds*"³⁰ is available to the Working Group.

Strategic Priority Area 3. Conservation

24. FAO is a member of a consortium consisting of collaborators from Europe and several African and South American countries that is implementing the project "IMAGE – Innovative Management of Animal Genetic Resources",³¹ supported by the European Union. The project aims to improve the management and *ex situ* conservation programmes for animal genetic resources and increase the utilization of germplasm stored in gene banks. In particular, FAO is leading activities associated with training for the African and Latin American partners and for benchmarking best practices for quality assurance of gene banks. The project will continue until 2020.

²⁶ CGRFA-16/17/Report/Rev.1, paragraph 47.

²⁷ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6482e.pdf>

²⁸ CGRFA-16/17/Report/Rev.1, paragraph 47.

²⁹ CGRFA-16/17/Report/Rev.1, paragraph 47.

³⁰ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-10/18/ Inf.5.

³¹ <http://imageh2020.eu>

25. The Global Focal Point and AGE have contributed to two training workshops and expert meetings on conservation of animal genetic resources, attended by a total of approximately 50 participants from six countries.

Strategic Priority Area 4. Policies, institutions and capacity-building

26. FAO provided support to various countries and regional bodies in the development of policies related to the management of animal genetic resources, including national strategies and action plans, and national laws and legislation.

27. FAO and its partners contributed to the development and/or implementation of six global projects and 28 regional or national projects involving 48 countries. Over the past two years, FAO organized, with partners, 18 national and regional capacity-building events with an average of eight countries participating.

28. FAO continued to collaborate with National Coordinators and regional stakeholders to maintain and strengthen Regional and Subregional Focal Points or networks in Asia, the Central Asia subregion, the Near East and Africa. FAO continued its collaboration with the Regional Focal Points for Europe and for Latin America and the Caribbean. FAO organized or contributed to seven meetings for National Coordinators in the reporting period.

29. FAO also contributed to a range of cross-cutting initiatives related to biodiversity, biotechnology and ecosystem services, including through the preparation of scientific papers and book chapters on the interactions between animal genetic resources and climate change, genetic improvement of small breeds and various applications of genomics. FAO terminated the production of the *Animal Genetic Resources* scientific journal following the publication of the 59th volume in 2016 since the need is being met by other institutions.³² All 59 issues remain available online.³³

30. FAO collaborated with the organizers of the 11th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production, which was held in New Zealand in February 2018. FAO organized and co-chaired a session on genetic improvement of local breeds and offered travel support to young scientists from nine developing countries.

31. FAO continues to maintain DAD-Net and regional subgroups as an informal forum for the discussion of issues relevant to the management of animal genetic resources. Numbers of subscribers and messages continue to increase steadily. As of April 2018, approximately 3 190 people from more than 150 countries were subscribed to the network. In 2017, nearly 500 messages were exchanged through DAD-Net. DAD-Net continues to be a unique and effective means of sharing experiences, disseminating information and facilitating informal discussions among individuals involved in the management of animal genetic resources.

V. COLLABORATION

32. The Commission, at its Sixteenth Regular Session,³⁴ requested FAO to continue to pursue partnerships and alliances in order to enhance the implementation of the Global Plan of Action. The Commission encouraged FAO and countries to foster collaboration with other stakeholders to improve the management of animal genetic resources.

33. FAO continued its interaction with regional bodies and regional economic communities, various scientific organizations and non-governmental organizations. FAO maintains its recognized technical competence in the management of animal genetic resources through various contributions to scientific endeavours, including by undertaking research and development projects, leading sessions at international scientific conferences and publishing scientific publications.

³² C2017/3 paragraph 59 b)

³³ <http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/genetics/journal.html>

³⁴ CGRFA-16/17/Report/Rev.1, paragraph 45.

VI. EVALUATING PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

34. The current version of the Commission's Multi-Year Programme of Work (2018–2027)³⁵ calls for a "Review of implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources" to be presented at its Eighteenth Regular Session in 2021. Similar reviews have been undertaken in the past, resulting in the *Synthesis Progress Report on the Implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources – 2012*³⁶ and *2014*,³⁷ (Synthesis Report); the latter informed the preparation of the Second Report.

35. Previous reviews have been based on data collected via a reporting process agreed by the Commission at its Twelfth Regular Session in 2009,³⁸ designed to facilitate reporting at country level through the flexible use of an electronic questionnaire prepared by FAO.

36. It is therefore proposed to follow the reporting format that was used for the preparation of the previous Synthesis Reports, with the possibility of including a few additional questions to improve the coverage of the indicators. From a statistical standpoint, utilization of the same questionnaire as for previous Synthesis Reports will allow for direct comparison of country progress over time in implementation of the Global Plan of Action.

37. It is further proposed that invitations to countries to contribute to the reporting process be distributed in February 2019. A four-month reporting period is proposed, resulting in a deadline of June 2019. Following data analysis and interpretation, a new Synthesis Report would be prepared by the FAO and presented for consideration of the Working Group at its Eleventh Regular Session in 2020 and to the Commission at its Eighteenth Regular Session in 2021.

VII. REVIEW OF THE FUNDING STRATEGY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

38. The Commission, at its Twelfth Regular Session, adopted the *Funding Strategy for the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*³⁹ (Funding Strategy) and requested FAO to implement it.⁴⁰

39. The Funding Strategy covers all known and potential sources of financial resources that support the implementation of the Global Plan of Action. The Funding Strategy established, as one of its financial resources, an FAO Trust Account for voluntary contributions to support national and regional projects for implementation of the Global Plan of Action.

Status of the FAO Trust Account

40. The activities of the projects of the first call for proposals funded through the FAO Trust Account were operationally closed in December 2016 and financially closed in December 2017. Total expenditures were USD 943 723. The Commission, at its Sixteenth Regular Session,⁴¹ requested FAO to compile reports and achievements of projects under the Funding Strategy and publicize these on the Web site of FAO. All reports have been made available on the Web pages of the Animal Production and Genetics Unit.⁴²

41. The Commission agreed,⁴³ with regard to future calls for proposals under the Funding Strategy and projects to be funded, to amended modalities⁴⁴ designed to improve the operation and

³⁵ CGRFA-16/17/Report/Rev.1, Appendix C.

³⁶ CGRFA-14/13/Inf.15.

³⁷ CGRFA-15/15/Inf.19.

³⁸ CGRFA-12/09/Report, paragraph 38.

³⁹ CGRFA-12/09/Report, Appendix C.

⁴⁰ CGRFA-12/09/Report, paragraph 43.

⁴¹ CGRFA-16/17/Report/Rev.1, paragraph 49.

⁴² http://www.fao.org/AG/AGInfo/programmes/en/genetics/Funding_strategy.html.

⁴³ CGRFA-16/17/Report/Rev.1, paragraph 49.

⁴⁴ CGRFA-16/17/13, paragraph 49 xvi, xviii–xxi.

effectiveness of the FAO Trust Account. To date, no funds are available for a second call for proposals under the FAO Trust Account. At its Sixteenth Regular Session,⁴⁵ the Commission invited donors to contribute to the Funding Strategy and to allocate sufficient funding for monitoring, backstopping and technical assistance of projects.

Status of other resources under the Funding Strategy

42. Work on animal genetic resources, including the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, contributed to six outcomes of the FAO's *Medium Term Plan 2014-17* relating to: Strategic Objective 2 - *Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner*; Strategic Objective 3- *Reduce rural poverty*; and Strategic Objective 4- *Enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems*. For 2016–17, the portion of FAO's Regular Programme resources planned for work on animal genetic resources was USD 2.7 million. However, the final Regular Programme expenditures for animal genetic resources in 2016-17 were USD 2.1 million, due to the reconfiguration of AGA professional staff time during the 2016-17 implementation due to internal secondments and the consolidation of the Animal Genetic Resources (AGAG) and Animal Production Systems Units (AGAS) of the Animal Production and Health Division.⁴⁶

43. Efforts concentrated on core activities, namely the intergovernmental process and DAD-IS, while decreasing engagement in FAO corporate-level cross-sectoral technical work. In addition, as mentioned in paragraph 29, production of the *Animal Genetic Resources* journal was ceased. Coincidentally, projects for the first call for proposals funded through the FAO Trust Account were operationally closed, decreasing the work load. The Global Focal Point benefited from the contributions of the officer seconded by the Government of France, who was present throughout the 2016-17 biennium.

44. Additional efforts will be required to deliver all critical outputs in the next reporting period, because the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Commission⁴⁷ foresees an increased workload, including the preparation of (i) the Synthesis Report; (ii) the report on progress by international organizations in implementation of the Global Plan of Action; and (iii) the proposed process for collecting national data to support the preparation of *The Third Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* during the next biennium.

45. During the reporting period, the value of FAO Technical Cooperation Projects contributing to this work amounted to approximately USD 2.2 million, and from the IAEA Technical Cooperation Programme through the FAO/IAEA Joint Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture to approximately USD 1.75 million.

Voluntary contributions to FAO

46. FAO received funds to support the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, including support for pastoralism, at global level, from France and Germany (total of approximately USD2.4 million) and for regional and country projects from Austria, Mongolia, Nepal, Saudi Arabia and Switzerland (total of approximately USD3.5 million). Additional funding was received from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. For some of these countries, the support was with funds the countries had received from donors, specifically the European Union and the World Bank. The funds under these programme cooperation agreements helped FAO provide catalytic funds for special activities at all levels. FAO is also associated with several European Commission-funded projects that provide stipends for developing-country participants and support the generation and dissemination of knowledge.

⁴⁵ CGRFA-16/17/Report/Rev.1, paragraph 49.

⁴⁶ PC 124/5, paragraph 16.

⁴⁷ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-10/18/7, Appendix I, Annex 2.

Resources not under FAO control

47. The Funding Strategy lists four different types of relevant resources, including resources that are not under FAO control. FAO has a facilitating role in enhancing countries' access to information on funding. It carries out this role by continuing to provide information on funding sources and grants through the Domestic Animal Diversity discussion network (DAD-Net) and through the Funding Strategy Web site.⁴⁸ Although information about resources not under FAO control is imprecise, evidence suggests an increasing recognition by donors of the importance of management of animal genetic resources as part of holistic programmes for livestock production. Donor support for management of animal genetic resources is often integrated into large comprehensive programmes, such as projects that support pastoralism or enhancement of entire livestock value chains, or through complementary activities, such as projects on animal identification and traceability. For example, the World Bank is developing or supporting, through grants or loans, large-scale livestock production projects in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, Mongolia, Nepal and Pakistan, and all projects include investments in improving animal breeding and genetics. The European Union continues to provide support to the African Union – Intercontinental Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) project on “Strengthening the Capacity of African Countries to Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of African Animal Genetic Resources” and increasingly involves developing countries in animal genetic resources projects under its Horizon 2020 research-support programme.

VIII. GUIDANCE SOUGHT

48. The Working Group is invited to review the progress made in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action and

- welcome the *Review of methods for identification and valuation of the ecosystem services provided by livestock breeds*;
- review the *Draft guidelines on developing sustainable value chains for small-scale livestock producers* and recommend them for endorsement by the Commission.

49. The Working Group may wish to recommend that the Commission:

- endorse the proposed procedure to follow the reporting format that was used for the preparation of the previous Synthesis Reports when undertaking the next review of progress in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action;
- invite countries to complete the reporting process in a timely manner, submitting Country Progress Reports by 30 June 2019;
- call upon countries to continue implementing the Global Plan of Action, in order to contribute to global food security and sustainable rural development, and in particular to help achieving Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 15;
- request FAO, in partnership with stakeholders and donors, to continue supporting country implementation of the Global Plan of Action;
- invite donors to contribute to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, including to a second call for proposals under the FAO Trust Account; and
- request FAO and countries to continue raising awareness and improving the knowledge base of the important roles of livestock producers and of livestock species and breeds in the provision of ecosystem services in order to better target interventions for livestock producers.

⁴⁸ http://www.fao.org/AG/AGInfo/programmes/en/genetics/Funding_strategy.html