



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE
UNITED NATIONS

ORGANISATION
DES NATIONS
UNIES POUR
L'ALIMENTATION
ET L'AGRICULTURE

ORGANIZACION
DE LAS NACIONES
UNIDAS PARA
LA AGRICULTURA
Y LA ALIMENTACION

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2007

Invitation to the Second Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Rome, Italy, 29 October – 2 November 2007

Reply requested by 30 September 2007

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has the honour to extend an invitation to attend the Second Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The Session will be held at FAO Headquarters in Rome from 29 October to 2 November 2007. The opening session will begin at 10.00 on Monday 29 October 2007. It will be preceded by a one-day regional consultation on 27 October 2007.

The Governing Body is convened under the provisions of Article 19 of the Treaty and is open to all Contracting Parties to the International Treaty and to observers. Expenses incurred by representatives of Contracting Parties, when attending sessions of the Governing Body, or subsidiary bodies, as well as the expenses incurred by observers at sessions, shall be borne by their respective governments or organizations. However, extra-budgetary funds have been made available to the Secretariat, for the purpose of supporting one representative of developing country Contracting Parties, if requested. Countries wishing to avail themselves of such support should inform the Secretariat before 30 September 2007, and provide the name and full contact details of the representative.

The Session will be conducted in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

The Provisional Agenda is attached. Further documents may be downloaded from the following website:
<http://www.planttreaty.org>, as soon as they become available.

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The Director-General would appreciate receiving by 30 September 2007, the name(s) of the delegate, alternate, expert(s) and adviser(s) of each Contracting Party or, in the case of Non-Parties, the name(s) of the observer(s), designated to participate in the Session with their addresses, including telephone, fax number and e-mail addresses. This information should be communicated to:

Mr Shakeel Bhatti
Secretary
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome
Italy
Tel: +39 06 5705 3554
Fax: +39 06 5705 6347
E-mail: PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org

Any queries or requests for information should also be addressed to the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture at the above address.

Each Contracting Party is kindly asked to submit the credentials of its delegate, alternate and expert(s) and adviser(s) designated to attend the meeting to the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, insofar as possible, not later than 15 October 2007.

Submission of credentials prior to the meeting would greatly facilitate the advance clearing process by the Secretariat. The credentials should be issued by, or on behalf of, the Head of State or Government, the Minister for Foreign Affairs or the Minister concerned, or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization. If credentials are submitted in copy or by fax, the original should be submitted upon registration. An example of credentials, issued by a Minister for Foreign Affairs, is attached for your information.

Attention is drawn to the strict provisions in force regarding entry into Italy, including the refusal of entry to persons not having the required visas. Participants requiring entry visas must obtain these from the Italian Consulate or Diplomatic Mission in their country before leaving for Rome. It should be noted that, since Italy's adherence to the Schengen Agreement, the issuance of an Italian entry visa may require up to three weeks. Those participants travelling from a country where there is no Italian Consulate or Diplomatic Mission may obtain a visa on arrival in Rome provided that they advise the FAO Protocol Branch, Rome, by fax of their arrival. Participants must provide their full name, date and place of birth, nationality, passport number, flight number, date of arrival and their travel itinerary. This information must reach FAO at least three weeks before the arrival of participants to permit the Protocol Branch to request the issue of an entry visa at Rome airport or other point of entry into Italy. Participants failing to comply with the above will not be allowed by the Italian authorities to enter Italy.

FAO is a smoke-free area. Smoking is not permitted inside any of the FAO buildings.

